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A-G denies plan to summon journalists in Gil case

By DAN IZENBERG

Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein yesterday denied a Channel 1 report saying he plans to summon dozens of journalists suspected of violating censorship by publishing details of the allegedly criminal acts of Mossad operative Yehuda Gil.

Justice Ministry spokeswoman Ety Eshed said the Attorney-General's Office is investigating all aspects of the case, including the role of the army censor, the role of the journalists, and the source of the leaks which led to the publication of the affair in the press.

The last meeting on the matter took place two months ago and no decisions have been taken yet, she said.

Gil, a full-time Mossad agent from 1970 until 1989, was arrested last fall on suspicion of feeding false information about Syria to the agency. He was charged in Tel Aviv District Court with espionage, conveying information with the intent of harming state security, theft by a public servant, and fraudulently receiving money under aggravated circumstances.

His trial is still going on and Gil will be held in custody throughout the proceedings.

The story was first broken by Ha'aretz. In November, his name appeared in the London Daily Telegraph, despite a ban by the Tel Aviv District Court. A few days later, Judge Menahem Ilan lifted the publication ban on his name and other aspects of the case, but refused to allow a photo of the agent to be published. Yediot Aharonot had published Gil's blurred image a few days earlier.

At the end of December, the court lifted the ban on the photograph following a petition by Yediot, Ha'aretz, Ma'ariv, and the IBA, which argued that the photo had just appeared in Newsweek.

Even before that, Gil's photo had been published by the Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera and had appeared on the Internet.

At the time, former General Security Service agent MK Gideon Ezra (Likud) demanded that the attorney-general investigate the role of the press in the affair. In February, during a session of the Knesset, Ezra's demand was repeated. In the meantime, the attorney-general's office is investigating the role of the press in the affair.



Germany sees red

Germany's Christian Woerns (left) is shown the red card by Norwegian referee Rune Pedersen during last night's World Cup quarter-final match against Croatia which ended in a 3-0 win for Croatia. Earlier yesterday, the Netherlands beat Argentina 2-1, while on Friday, host nation France beat Italy 4-3 on penalties after a goalless 120 minutes and Brazil ousted Denmark 3-2. The semi-final lineup pits Holland against Brazil on Tuesday and France against Croatia the following day. Story Page 16.

Swiss banker: We're being blackmailed

News agencies

BERN, Switzerland — Switzerland and its banks are being "blackmailed" in the controversy over Holocaust-era assets, but must carefully consider all their options, the chairman of the biggest bank said yesterday.

Mathis Caballavetta, chairman of the United Bank of Switzerland, confirmed on Swiss radio that the banks' offer last month of \$600 million for a settlement of claims by Holocaust victims is still on the table.

In Zurich, a millionaire shareholder said yesterday that Swiss bank shareholders may sue New York City and New York State for damages allegedly caused by their threats to boycott Swiss banks in connection with Holocaust claims.

Swiss citizen Marc Fessler, 40, who said he holds 20,000 shares in Credit Suisse, told Reuters he has decided that "enough is enough."

New York City and State on Thursday turned up the pressure

over the deadlocked talks among the banks, Jewish groups, and lawyers for class-action claimants by announcing plans to withhold business from the Swiss banks. Other states also have announced plans for sanctions.

Caballavetta said he was extremely disappointed with the development. "We are being absolutely blackmailed," he said.

He accused the other side of ignoring the banks' own efforts to investigate their Holocaust-era archives, which he said involved a huge investment and some 300 to 500 staffers. The banks should work out how to proceed over the next few weeks, the UBS chairman continued.

Fessler said so far six shareholders, including himself, had expressed interest in a suit "and by the middle of next week, I imagine we will be quite a lot more people."

Class-action suits so far have been filed only by Holocaust victims — against Swiss banks,

German banks, the Swiss National Bank, and European insurers — while banks have merely said they might consider their own legal options.

Lawyers for Holocaust victims and the World Jewish Congress want \$1.5 billion from Swiss banks and government, rejecting an offer from banks of \$600 million to settle all claims.

The Swiss government has declined to take part in negotiations.

Swiss bank stocks have been strong despite the threats of sanctions.

But Fessler said the discussions had hurt the banks' image and that of Switzerland. "My personal idea is that Switzerland as a financial place would be even stronger if we didn't have all these problems."

Fessler, also managing director of the Swiss asset management company SwissPex AG, plans to launch the class-action lawsuit on the very first day of the boycott, which authorities in New York say will be September 1.

While he would not specify the amount of damages the group will seek,

Fessler said "the sum will be just as striking as everything we've so far heard from overseas."

One of the Swiss lawyers said the sum might be at least \$1 billion.

Despite US government objections, an advisory commission on Wednesday opened the way for sanctions after declaring negotiations at an impasse.

New York City and State, which have hundreds of millions of dollars in pension funds invested in Swiss banks and other companies, said if there is no settlement by September 1, they will bar short-term investments with the banks, which, with Swiss investment firms will also be forbidden from selling state and city debt.

If the impasse continues, he said, the bans will be extended to additional Swiss financial services in November and to all Swiss companies in January.

Mubarak to host 3-way summit in Cairo today

Bar-Ilan angry Israel left out

By HERB KEINON, MARGOT DUDKOVITCH, and news agencies

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will host Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and Jordan's King Hussein in Cairo today for a three-way summit that Palestinian officials said will deal with the impasse in the peace talks.

The meeting comes two days after Israeli and Palestinian officials defused a confrontation in Gaza and the Palestinians lifted their blockade of the Gush Katif settlements.

Jordanian officials said Hussein will be accompanied by Prime Minister Abdul Majali and Chief of Royal Court Fayez Tarawneh. Arafat arrived in Cairo yesterday.

The three leaders last held a summit in September 1997 to discuss the stalled peace process.

But Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's communications director, David Bar-Ilan, said that, rather than holding Arab summits, it would be "more productive" if the Palestinians would negotiate with Israel.

"It would be more productive if the Palestinians decided to stop the 15-month-old boycott on talks with Israel and negotiate with us, instead of the rulers of Arab states," he said.

Bar-Ilan said that Arafat "has been asking for a summit for a very long time. He hasn't been able to arrange it with Syria, so I guess this is what has come out of it."

The three Arab leaders are also expected to discuss Israel's plans to create an "umbrella municipality" for Jerusalem and to expand the capital.

In a related development, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa and French presidential envoy Jean Claude Cousseran yesterday discussed a Franco-Egyptian proposal to convene an international meeting of countries not at war with Israel and interested in the peace process.

Foreign Ministry Director-General Eytan Ben-Zur said Israel opposes the idea, since it would be excluded from the meeting, Israel Radio reported.

The radio also reported that Netanyahu met with Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny over the weekend and

said that before discussing a Franco-Egyptian initiative, it is necessary to exhaust the American initiative.

Cousseran told reporters the meeting with Moussa was a follow-up to a summit between presidents Jacques Chirac and Mubarak in Paris in May, in which the idea of an international conference was first raised.

Mubarak was quoted last week in the Cairo press as saying Egypt would follow up the conference idea if a US proposal to reactivate the negotiations failed. Both France and Egypt want a bigger role for the European Union in the peace negotiations.

On Friday morning, after mediation by US peace envoy Dennis Ross, the IDF allowed a convoy of some 30 Palestinian trucks to pass through the road linking Gush Katif to the Gaza Strip, ending an armed standoff of some 15 hours between IDF troops and armed Palestinian Police and security forces.

Palestinian security forces agreed to open up the roads and intersections they blocked the day before. The confrontation stranded hundreds of residents from the settlements of Netzarim, Kfar Darom, and Morag.

OC Southern Command Maj-Gen Yom Tov Samia and Palestinian Gaza Intelligence chief Mohammed Dahlan are to meet today in an attempt to prevent similar incidents in the future.

At a PA cabinet meeting in Hebron on Friday night, Arafat said the PA would not allow any assault on the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and blamed Israel for violating the signed accords.

"The Palestinian Authority will stand together with all Palestinians and will not hesitate to defend assault on our land," he said.

Netanyahu said on Friday that "The events in Gush Katif were a blatant violation of the Oslo agreement and a planned provocation on the part of the Palestinian Authority. We attempt to solve problems like this without violence, and we succeeded this time, but it must be clear to all that Israel will not cede its right to control these roads, and nothing will be gained by violence."

See CAIRO, Page 2

Golan animal poisoning called 'ecological disaster'

By LIAT COLLINS

The mass poisoning of Griffon vultures, wild boars, and jackals in the Golan Heights on Thursday and Friday was described yesterday as "an ecological disaster" by environmentalists.

Agriculture and Environment Minister Rafael Eitan has appointed a committee of inquiry, led by Israel Raptor Center head Dr. Yossi Leshem, to investigate the incident.

A preliminary inquiry has found at least two separate cases of deliberate poisoning presumably by dairy farmers, who were apparently aiming at the wolves on the Golan — which are also a protected species.

So far 20 vultures, one buzzard, four jackals, and three nursing

wild sows are known to have died.

The sows were probably suckling up to 20 young, which are likely to have died of dehydration. Similarly, at least one young vulture died in the nest after either having been fed the poisoned bait by its parents or from dehydration without their protection from the heat.

"The effects are devastating," said Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel spokeswoman Orit Nevo. She said this was the worst case of animal poisoning in the country since the 1970s.

The Griffon vulture population in the north numbered approximately 150 before the poisonings and has been dwindling in recent years.

"In the first case, a poisoned calf was used as bait and in the second, poisoned hens," Nevo said. "The effects on the food chain are such that our warden found dead flies on the hens and a dead lizard which had eaten the flies. We cannot tell what might have eaten the lizard and how far along the chain this can go."

Forensic tests show the type of

poison used could take up to 20 years to break down and the effects could be felt for several years. Although all identifying marks had been removed from the poisoned calf, the SPNI is hopeful the culprit can be identified.

"But we are pointing a finger not only at the cattle farmers, but at the government, which has done nothing to try to humanely solve the problem of the coexistence of the wolves and the cattle herds," Nevo said.

She noted that most of the help in this case had come from the Israel Electric Corporation, which has a vulture protection program, and Tuva, which funds the "Born to Be Wild" project and hospital for wild animals at Abu Kabir. Four vultures, victims of the poisoning, are being treated in the hospital.

One of them is the first vulture to have been fitted with a transmitter and set free at the Gamla Nature Reserve and another was a bird which had been released back to nature in the Carmel reserve.

PA denies Turkey refused request for Ottoman-era land papers

By MOHAMMED NAJIB and news agencies

A Palestinian Authority official last night denied reports that the Turkish government had refused a request by PA Minister for Jerusalem Faisal Hussein to review Ottoman-era real estate documents relating to Jerusalem.

Palestinian Legislative Council member Hatem Abdul Khader, who is from Jerusalem, told The Jerusalem Post, "We are asking Turkey as an Islamic state to take a position against the Israeli plan to expand Jerusalem's boundaries."

He added, "We haven't had any notification that Turkey refused our demand."

Abdul Khader indicated that the PA was preparing a file about real estate that had been owned by Arabs in western Jerusalem, for the final-status talks.

"The Jews are alleging that they have some real estate in east Jerusalem, and we have some documents affirming our owner-

ship of approximately 55-60% of western Jerusalem," said Abdul Khader.

"We had collected some documents from some Arab states, and we need some documents which are at Anadolu in Turkey," he added.

Palestinian sources said that Hussein, who met yesterday with Turkish President Suleiman Demirel in Ankara, gave him a letter from PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, asking Turkey to intervene on behalf of Islamic holy sites in Jerusalem.

The letter asked that Turkey use its influence with Israel to move the stalled peace process.

Hussein also met yesterday with Turkish Foreign Minister Ismail Cem, ahead of Cem's planned visit here.

"I am here to open the subject of Jerusalem," Hussein told reporters in Ankara, before meeting Cem.

Hussein described the plan to extend Jerusalem's municipal boundaries as a destructive move

for the peace process.

"We want the peace process to continue healthily. We emphasize the importance of this in our extensive contacts," Cem said.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman declined to comment last night on Hussein's meetings in Turkey.

Cem is scheduled to begin a three-day visit to Israel tomorrow and is also due to hold separate talks with Palestinian officials on July 8 in Palestinian-controlled territory.

His visit is seen as a sign of the growing cooperation between Turkey and Israel, dating to 1996 when they signed a defense accord, allowing Israeli jets to train in Turkey's air space and Turkish F-16 fighter planes to be upgraded by Israeli experts.

The informal alliance has drawn strong criticism from Arab states and Iran.

A Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman said this week that Turkey pursues a "balanced policy" between Israelis and Palestinians.

Two drown; teen crushed by tractor

Two people drowned over the weekend, and a 14-year-old was killed yesterday when a tractor that he was sitting in overturned and crushed him.

Majdi Abadi, 19, from Kafr Kara, drowned Friday night off the Acadia Beach in Herzliya. Abadi, who works at the Daniel Hotel, had gone for a late-night swim with three other hotel workers.

After a short time, the other three came out of the water and noticed Abadi was missing. A search found him floating unconscious in the water. An MDA crew declared him dead at the scene.

Only 15 minutes later, Shalom Aljovev, 22, of Jerusalem, was found drowned off the Jerusalem Beach in Tel Aviv. He was pulled out of the water unconscious by three friends, but although a small crowd gathered, no one attempted any form of resuscitation.

The 14-year-old was killed on a farm near Moshav Tashor in the western Negev when a tractor toppled over and crushed him. (Tin)

הכזה מן האסל

NEWS

in brief

Jerusalemite held for anti-Arab vandalism

A resident of the Jewish Quarter in Jerusalem's Old City is to be remanded at the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court today for smashing Palestinian vehicles near Kiryat Arba with an iron chain. Judea and Samaria Police Spokesman Opher Sivan said the resident, 20, and two other people were arrested by Hebron police late Friday night. The three dressed up as Arabs wearing keffiyehs. They rode horses and brandished iron chains, which they used to smash Palestinian vehicles parked on the roadside. Police who were on duty investigating recent incidents of arson against Arab property in the Hebron area saw the three smashing windows. They jumped the horse of one man and arrested him, but the other two perpetrators managed to gallop away.

Margot Dudkevitch

Wiesenthal Center to UK: Extradite hatemonger

The Simon Wiesenthal Center's European office is demanding that Britain re-arrest and extradite Herve Guitoso, one of the leaders of a skinhead group, the Charlemagne Hammerskins, which has called on its Web site for the murder of several British and French political and media personalities, most of whom are Jewish.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Fires destroy brushland in Galilee

Dozens of dunams of natural brushland went up in smoke yesterday during two fires in Western Galilee. Firefighters were able to bring the blazes under control by evening.

In one blaze, next to Moshav Yodfat, about 50 dunams (12.5 acres) of natural brush were consumed, while in the second fire, near Arabeh village, seven dunams were destroyed. An investigation will check if arson is to blame.

Itim

Jordan, Saudi Arabia plan free-trade zone

Jordan and Saudi Arabia are working on creating a free-trade zone to bolster commercial ties. The proposed zone would allow goods to be exchanged free of tax and customs duty. Saudi Trade Minister Osama Faqeeh told reporters in Amman yesterday. Faqeeh declined to say how much it would cost or provide details.

AP

Greek Orthodox Arabs blast church's land deals

By HAIM SHAPIRO
and news agencies

Some 300 Greek Orthodox Christians from the West Bank and Israel gathered at the Jaffa Gate in Jerusalem yesterday to protest the church's land deals with Israeli and western companies.

The Arab demonstrators issued a statement condemning the recent sale of church-owned land in Jaffa, which they said was without their approval.

"This is an issue of land and existence. For Palestinians, land is a symbol of our lasting presence here," said Marwan Toubasi, head of the Arab Orthodox Conference, which was set up to protest the church's policies.

Greek Orthodox Patriarch Diodoros I was out of the country for medical treatment, accompanied by several members of the church hierarchy.

Lay groups have several times in the past tried to block the sale or lease of church property in the courts, but the courts have consistently ruled against them.

Uri Mor, head of the Religious Affairs Ministry's Department for Christian Communities, said that the protesters had appealed to him to intervene, but he said the state could not interfere in an intra-communal dispute.

Mor added the protesters had originally wanted to demonstrate opposite the Patriarchate, but they could not do so since the entire area is considered a holy place.

The Palestinian Authority director of Christian affairs, Ibrahim Kandalaft, said the church was leasing its real estate, not selling it.

But Toubasi said this did not matter, since the end result was "Jewish settlement of our land."

Polls show conflicting Netanyahu-Barak results if vote for PM were held now

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

If prime ministerial elections were held now, 40% of Israelis would vote for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and 37% would vote for Labor Chairman MK Ehud Barak, according to an Israel Gallop poll.

However, a survey published in *Yediot Aharanot* on Friday, showed opposite results, giving Barak a narrow edge over Netanyahu.

In the Israel Gallop survey, which was taken on July 1, 12% of respondents said they would

vote for neither Barak nor Netanyahu, 35% were undecided and 1% refused to answer. Five hundred citizens over the age of 18 were questioned.

Seventy percent of those questioned by Israel Gallop said they believed Netanyahu should not carry out a second redeployment if the Palestinians don't implement their commitments according to the Oslo Agreements, including the amendment of the Palestinian Covenant and the extradition of Palestinian terrorists.

Nineteen percent of those surveyed called on Netanyahu to go ahead with the second redeployment even without the Palestinians fulfilling their commitments, while 11% were undecided.

Asked if they relied on Netanyahu to do everything to reach the best agreement possible for Israel with the Palestinians, 33% said they had total faith in the prime minister's ability, and 30% said they had partial faith in him.

Twenty-three percent said he

was totally incapable of reaching the best agreement, 13% said they believed he had slim chances of being successful, and 2% were undecided.

Asked if they believe Netanyahu is purposely stalling and has no intention of reaching a peace agreement with the Palestinians, 44% agreed and 50% disagreed, with 6% saying they didn't know.

In the *Yediot Aharanot* survey, 42% of those questioned said they would vote for Barak and 39% for Netanyahu if prime ministerial

elections took place now. Four percent refused to answer. The poll was carried out by Dahar, which questioned 502 adult citizens.

Sixty-six percent said they agreed with President Ezer Weizman's statement that the government is not run properly and 30% said they disagreed with Weizman's statement.

Asked if the President should be allowed to state his opinion on government policy publicly, 66% said he should and 32% said he should not.

2 SLA troops hurt

MARJAYOUN (AP) —

Hizbullah fighters detonated a bomb yesterday near an Israeli army patrol in southern Lebanon.

The guerrillas claimed to have killed and wounded members of the patrol. The IDF said an Israeli allied militiaman was slightly wounded and taken to a nearby hospital.

The fighters exploded the remote-controlled bomb as an armored personnel carrier passed near the Ali Taher position, about

four kilometers northwest of Marjayoun.

The ambush triggered retaliatory Israeli shelling of trails believed to be used by Hizbullah for infiltration. No injuries were reported in the shelling, said the Lebanese officials, speaking on customary condition of anonymity.

Later, an Israeli allied militiaman was seriously hurt when the car he was driving overturned, the IDF said. He was flown to a hospital in Israel for treatment.

Assad names new chief of staff

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON — President Hafez Assad has appointed a new chief of staff for the Syrian armed forces to replace the veteran Gen. Hikmat Shehawi, according to reports in Friday's Arabic-language press.

No official announcement has yet been made, but two leading Arabic-language dailies reported in London, *al-Hayat* and *al-Quds al-Arabi*, both reported from Damascus that Shehawi had been replaced as part of a round of promotions and appointments recently approved by the president.

The retirement of Shehawi, a political ally of Assad since the 1960s, came just days after he turned 67 — the age of compulsory military retirement — on June 30.

It was suggested that he will probably be appointed to a senior political post, possibly vice president. The papers identified his replacement as Deputy Chief of Staff Ali Aslan, a highly-regarded career officer who is said to have distinguished himself during the fighting against Israel in 1973.

Unlike Shehawi, Aslan is a member of Assad's minority Alawite sect.

Tal: IDF must retain its first-strike capability

By STEVE RODAN

A leading government strategist said yesterday he is concerned by what he called the tendency of the nation's leaders to believe that defense-based systems can protect the country, calling such a concept "very dangerous."

Defense Ministry adviser Maj. Gen. (res.) Yisrael Tal told a conference on military doctrine at Ramat Eshel that Israel must retain its capability to strike at its enemies, including an option for pre-emptive attack.

He referred to the nation's large investment in such defensive systems as the Arrow missile, which is meant to create a shield against enemy ballistic missiles, as inadequate for the nation's defense needs.

"One of the things that worries me is that among policy makers there is a certain belief that defense is stronger than offense," Tal said.

"We are working hard on this technologically, although not enough that we can beat the enemy from defensive positions. This is very dangerous. The Arabs can afford themselves to be in a defensive position. We can't afford this. We don't have the reserves."

Attempt made to cancel Aryan Nations parade

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho (AP) —

A Jewish group is waging a call-in campaign demanding an Idaho city cancel a parade permit it gave to the white-supremacist Aryan Nations.

The Jewish Defense Organization of New York said in a statement there would be trouble unless Coeur d'Alene Mayor Steve Judy revoked a permit for the 100-person march on July 18.

Jerusalem Post Staff

BEA LEVY-KESSEL

died Saturday

A wonderful lady who will be sadly missed by all.
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Tombstone Unveiling

On the shloshim of the death of a distinguished lady

EVELYNE BARNETT

Wife of Dr. Gershon Barnett-Svitzky of New York
Daughter of Dr. Shalom Miller of Antwerp

the tombstone will be unveiled tomorrow, 12 Tammuz at 6:00 p.m. in the Hassidim Section of Har Hamenuhot, Jerusalem.

The Family

We shall meet at 5:50 p.m. in the Har Hamenuhot plaza

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of my husband, our father and grandfather

FRITZ YAKOV VOGEL

Please avoid condolence visits.

The mourning family

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مركز من الامم

Report: Israel-backed Lebanese group hitting Syrian targets

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON — An underground Lebanese group suspected of conducting a spate of attacks on mainly Syrian targets in Lebanon over recent months is believed to have links to Israel, the Saudi-owned and London-based daily *al-Hayat* reported on Friday.

Most group members are associated with the banned Lebanese Forces (LF), which functioned as the main Christian militia during the 1975-1990 civil war and strongly opposes Syrian influence in Lebanon.

Two members of the group were killed when a bomb they were transporting in their car blew up in Dora, north of Beirut, on June 19.

Lebanese authorities discovered they were part of an LF sabotage cell comprising some 20 people, 11 of whom have since been arrested.

The group used a computer firm based in the Beirut neighborhood of Ain al-Remmaneh as a front,

through which they received operational orders by Internet from an LF office in Australia.

Some reports indicated that the LF office could have been working for, or with, Israeli intelligence with the aim of destabilizing Lebanon.

Investigators discovered that the computer firm's two directors fled Lebanon within hours of the Dora explosion. They caught a flight from Beirut airport to Doha in Qatar, and from there they traveled to Malaysia.

Sources quoted by *al-Hayat* said that the group was responsible for a series of attacks, mostly against Syrian targets, including the bombing of several taxi-stands and bus stations used by Syria-bound vehicles, a gun attack on a Syrian bus in Tabaria whose driver was killed, and the bombing of two branch offices of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party.

The group is also said to have been planning an attack on a Beirut sports club currently used as a Syrian army base.



Samaria tour

Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein is greeted by immigrant children in Shavei Shomron in Samaria on Thursday. Edelstein visited several towns in Samaria before meeting with settlement leaders at Homesh to discuss the pending second redeployment. He stressed that the government has not reached a final position regarding the redeployment and doubted it would do so before the end of this month. He added he would consider voting against the redeployment if it would endanger the lives of residents. (Text: Margot Dudkevitch; photo: Yitzhak Elhanan/Scoop 80)

Poll: Palestinians don't trust Israelis

By MOHAMMED NAJIB and NOAH STREIT

A whopping 90 percent of Palestinians do not trust the intentions of the Israeli government and 76% do not trust the intention of the Israeli people, according to a poll conducted last week by the Center for Palestine Research and Studies in Nablus.

The poll also shows a rise in support for violence, the highest since 1994, with 50% supporting it and 45% opposed.

The poll asked 1,335 Palestinians 18 years or older, with a margin of error of plus or minus 3% and a 3% non-response rate.

The poll indicates that there is still a majority supporting the peace process, with 68% for and 29% opposed. Only 31% see a possibility for reaching an agreement during final status negotiations.

Dr. Khalil Shikaki, project director for CPRS, said, "It's hard for one to believe in the peace process and violence at the same time. However, as you can see from the survey, people support the peace process, but don't trust it. Therefore, they want to move unilaterally, in the support for violence and support for statehood." Shikaki added, "I don't think the economic situation alone explains much, but it aggravates the situation." According to the poll, 51% of

Palestinians oppose the US redeployment initiative, while 43% accept it. Opposition to the initiative is stronger in the Gaza Strip, where it reaches 58%, while 46% are against the initiative in the West Bank.

Opposition is also stronger among men and young residents of refugee camps.

According to the poll, there has been a major decline in the percentage of those expecting the establishment of a Palestinian state — from 62% in November 1997 to 48% currently.

The poll shows that 58% support the transformation of the PA into a Palestinian state at the end of the transitional period in May 1999.

Fifty percent describe their economic and living conditions as worse today than at beginning of the peace process and 46% can not provide for their basic needs, nonetheless, 65% are optimistic about the future.

Concerning the PA, 64% believe there is corruption in the PA and 58% believe corruption will increase or remain the same in the future.

Thirty eight percent wish to see a comprehensive change in the PA's cabinet, while 51% support a more limited change in which some ministers and senior officials are changed.

Fifty seven percent believe that people cannot criticize the PA without fear.

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

Reconciliation

The dispute between President Ezer Weizman and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu continued to cause a stir in the weekend press, which conveyed its unanimous impression that the reconciliation meeting between the two is only a pause.

No signs of real peace between Weizman and Netanyahu are spotted in the horizon, claims *Ma'ariv's* Ben Caspit who believes that it is only a matter of time until the next explosion occurs.

"Whoever thinks that the 'reconciliation meeting' is the beginning of a wonderful friendship, should forget it," states *Yedioth Aharonot's* Silvy Keshet, adding that "this is not even a truce, only a cease-fire."

Redeployment

Weizman's attack also renewed the debate regarding the implications of a 13% withdrawal, which provoked some pessimistic responses.

Ma'ariv's Chemi Shalev says that the logic of the interim agreements was to develop a closeness between both sides in order to establish a true and lasting peace, but during the last two years, only

hostility and alienation has emerged.

Hatzofeh's editorial states that the implementation of the redeployment will only lead to an explosion in the final-status talks, when the inevitable issue of Jerusalem arises.

Changes in the IDF

The new IDF chief of General Staff Shaul Mofaz is to assume his post this week, and the press focused on the current condition of the army and the expectations from Mofaz.

According to *Yedioth's* Ron Ben-Yishai, the defense doctrine has been raised to the top of the agenda, following Maj-Gen. Matan Vilna's call to update it.

"The feeling is that in many army arenas, one must stop operating in existing patterns," he writes.

Yedioth's Nahum Barnea interviews Vilna, who was originally designated to replace Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, but was deprived of the position by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Vilna argues that the army is suffering a 50-year crisis. "The IDF is a small army. The question is whether it is small and smart or small and stupid. It depends on the people."

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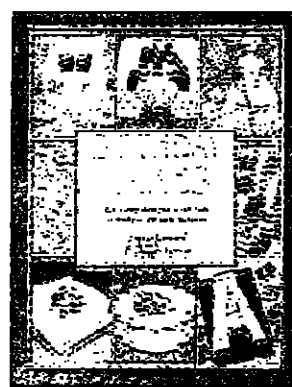
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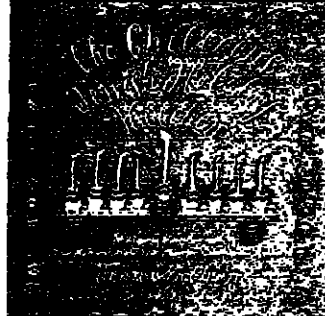
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Widower scores PM at Apropos monument unveiling

The widower of one of the three women killed in last year's Apropos Cafe suicide bombing in Tel Aviv criticized Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's peace policy at the unveiling of a monument to the victims on Friday.

Shai Avrahami - who was wounded in the terrorist attack that killed his wife, Michal, 32, Yael Gilad, 32, and Anat Rosen-Winter, 30 - was outspokenly critical at the ceremony opposite the cafe on Sderot Ben-Gurion.

"A chain of painful and difficult terrorist attacks brought Benjamin Netanyahu to power promising peace and security. When he took office, Michal was worried and very fearful about what would happen..."

"The extremist core that will never want to reach a compromise is broadening its circle of supporters from the reservoir of those who are frustrated by a peace process that is not being realized. Looking back, we were just an unnecessary incident and victims of our government's wicked policy."

The ceremony was also attended by President Ezer Weizman, Labor MK Shimon Peres, Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo, Leah Rabin and her daughter, Dalia Pelosoff.

Weizman told the assembly: "We have enough power to take the risk of going toward peace and doing so via a forthright process, and I hope



A relative lays a bouquet on Friday at the new monument for the victims of the Apropos Cafe suicide bombing of March 21, 1997.

it is not dragged out and prolonged. "To say, 'I'll sit down with someone who was my enemy and we'll

try to reach an understanding about living together, one needs a lot of strength, a lot of courage, and a lot

of dedication; and I believe the will exists on the other side."

(Itim)

US trying to soften UN action on Jerusalem plan

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - The Palestinians seem determined to force the US to use its veto this week in the Security Council, which is considering a resolution that would condemn Israel for the Jerusalem expansion plan, according to Israeli Ambassador Dore Gold.

After the Security Council heard dozens of nations debate the Jerusalem plan, there were feverish consultations on an Anglo-American effort to come up with a "presidential statement."

This would be the mildest of the possible council actions and has no force.

However, such a statement requires a consensus of the 15-

member council, and the Palestinians were said to be pressuring Bahrain, the Arab state on the council, to reject any of the draft language for such a statement.

That, Gold said Thursday, would force a vote that would compel the US to decide whether to veto the resolution.

The measure would condemn the Jerusalem expansion plan and demand that it be rescinded. It also calls on Israel "to refrain from all actions or measures, including settlement activities, which are illegal" and could interfere with future talks on the status of Jerusalem.

A US veto is not assured.

Israel's position is that it did not violate its international commitments, and it would not deserve any

statement that has critical components. Gold said, adding, "but I understand the desire of the US not to be placed in difficult positions."

The council's action is due next week, at which time, Gold said, "I think we are going to be running from the General Assembly to the Security Council a few times."

On Tuesday, the assembly is scheduled to debate a request from the Arab states to upgrade the PLO's status at the UN from observer to nearly that of a state. A similar effort failed last December.

Gold has been meeting with Eastern European nations who appear reluctant to support the upgrade, which could set an uncomfortable precedent for them.

Son of former Iranian officer surfaces in US

WASHINGTON (AP) - The eldest son of Maj. Gen. Mohsen Rezaei, former commander of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards, says he has been granted political asylum in the US.

Ahmed Rezaei, whose age was unavailable, told the Voice of America's Persian Service that he fled Iran because he "was seeking a way to bring peace and quiet to my life."

The VOA interview, in Farsi, was

broadcast to Iran on Thursday and Friday.

On Friday, Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency reported that Rezaei had been kidnapped by Americans in March as he was trying to return home from a visit to the United Arab Emirates.

"In terms of spiritual values, the current regime in Iran has not done anything other than hurting Islam," Rezaei said in a portion of the VOA interview obtained by AP.

"The sanctity, purity and piety of Islam has been destroyed by these people since they have committed all their illegal work under the guise of Islam."

Rezaei, speaking from Los Angeles, told VOA that he left Iran on February 6 and arrived in the US on March 26.

His father, a hard-liner, is current secretary of the expediency council of the Islamic Republic Regime, Rezaei told VOA.

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Nigerians waiting for Abiola release

By FELIX ONUAH

ABUJA (Reuters) - Nigerians were still waiting yesterday for the release of political detainee Moshood Abiola.

Officials have said that freedom for the former presidential contender could be delayed because his supporters refuse to believe that he has abandoned his claim to the presidency.

Former colonial power Britain said Nigeria's military rulers must release Abiola if they are serious about restoring democracy to Africa's most populous nation of at least 104 million people.

Government officials said no action could be taken until security was tightened to prevent possible protests over the release of the 60-year-old Moslem tycoon.

Abiola was jailed in 1994 for declaring himself president on the basis of an annulled vote the previous year which he is widely believed to have won.

"The government is not happy with the uncompromising comments of the various leaders of pro-democracy groups. Their comments indicate that they will mastermind violent protests if Abiola is not made president," one senior government official told Reuters in Abuja.

"Abiola should definitely be released very soon, but I can assure you that these comments have not helped matters at all," the official said.

Die-hard Abiola loyalists, based mostly in his southwestern home region, reacted angrily when UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Thursday said Abiola had told him he was not "naïve" enough to think he could leave detention and be made president.

They said new military ruler

General Abdulsalam Abubakar was trying to trick Abiola into giving up his right, and using Annan to do so.

World leaders seizing on the new openness in oil-producing Nigeria after the June 8 death of dictator Sani Abacha show little sympathy for Abiola's claim, but at the same time insist that he should go free.

"The release of Chief Abiola would be a great step forward. We must hope that the new government of Nigeria understands that," British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook told reporters after meeting Annan in London.

"It will be a critical test for the international community about the strength of the commitment to return to civilian democratic society," Political analysts say.

Abubakar needs Abiola's release - and his public renunciation of his claim - to give credibility to a plan to restore civilian rule, probably by January 1999, which he is expected to announce soon.

This would replace a discredited program drawn up by Abacha which included new presidential elections in which Abacha would have been the only candidate.

A high-level delegation sets off from the United States, Nigeria's biggest trading partner, this weekend to further encourage Abubakar, 56, who has already freed more than 30 well-known political prisoners. The European Union sent an envoy last week.

In a sign of Abubakar's growing confidence over the military establishment, which has ruled Nigeria for all but 10 years since independence from Britain in 1960, he appointed a new deputy on Friday, Rear-Admiral Mike Akhigbe, who has often spoken in favor of democracy.

Arsonists burn 10 churches

By SHAWN POGATCHNIK

PORTADOWN (AP) - British army engineers erected barbed-wire fencing and dug a moat through farm fields yesterday in hopes of deterring thousands of Protestant Orangemen from overpowering them and marching through a hostile Catholic area nearby.

The handiwork of about 700 soldiers, using bulldozers and backhoes, underlined British authorities' apparent determination to block Portadown's Orangemen when they try to march Sunday from the rural Drumcree Anglican church back into the staunchly Protestant town through its main Catholic area.

Soldiers and police also blocked every other road leading into the Catholic area with armored cars and steel barricades.

The scale of the army operation was bigger than 1996, when the government last ordered the town's 2,000 Orangemen not to raise sectarian tensions with their annual march.

The Drumcree rector, the Rev. John Pickering, said the sight of the expanding army barricade saddened him at a time when, through April's compromise agreement on how Northern Ireland should be governed, "I thought we were beginning on the way for peace. But this barrier across the fields of barbed wire is a great division and it's symbolic of the division in Northern Ireland. ... I appeal to people to pray to almighty God for His help."

The Catholic protesters, led by former IRA prisoner Brendan MacCionnaith, said they could not trust the British security forces to stop the Orangemen and would form a round-the-clock human barricade starting at midday on Garvaghy Road, the thoroughfare through their area.

Two years ago, soldiers erected similar fortifications through the fields surrounding the high-sited Drumcree church.

But determined then as now to get their way, Northern Ireland's 80,000-strong Protestant brotherhood massed in their tens of thousands at the church and blocked roads across Northern Ireland.

After five days of escalating mayhem the police caved in, forcing Catholic protesters off Garvaghy Road.

In 1997, army engineers began erecting barricades at midnight outside the church, but only as a ruse. Riot police and army armored cars swamped Garvaghy Road three hours later, catching most of the Catholic protesters sleeping.

Four nights of furious Catholic rioting followed across Northern Ireland.

This year the government passed responsibility to a new



British soldiers secure a checkpoint early yesterday at the bottom of the Garvaghy Road, Portadown, Northern Ireland. (AP)

Parades Commission of three Protestants and three Catholics led by an Englishman, which again ordered Orangemen to avoid Garvaghy Road. As part of its ruling, the commissioners said the Orangemen would be breaking the law if they formed another round-the-clock mob at the church.

Since 1807, the march each first Sunday of July has provided a rallying point for Portadown Protestants. In recent years the Orangemen have marched from their downtown hall to worship at the rural church using a longer, noncontroversial route, then returned by the more direct Garvaghy Road. Their leaders insist they have already been forced to concede too much and the protesters' real goal is to shame them.

But the leader of the Presbyterian Church, Northern Ireland's largest Protestant denomination, appealed to Orangemen not to confront police or soldiers with violence.

The Rev. John Dixon said the Gospel calls on Christians "to obey the lawfully constituted authority, to show a gentle attitude towards everyone."

For the first time, the sectarian hatred that this showdown encourages has begun even before the march. Arsonists attacked 10 Catholic churches starting Wednesday night, followed by retaliation on a Protestant church, an Orange hall and other properties. Two Orange halls in Belfast, 50 km. to the northeast and Cookstown,

25 km. north, suffered minor damage from gasoline bombs early yesterday.

Britain's security minister in Northern Ireland, Adam Ingram, condemned "this mindless sectarianism."

Earlier yesterday, details emerged of intensive but unsuccessful shuttle diplomacy between MacCionnaith and the Portadown Orangemen.

The communications involved a chain of intermediaries and senior politicians, because Orangemen have refused to negotiate directly with MacCionnaith's Garvaghy Road Residents Coalition since he started organizing opposition to their parade in 1995.

The newly elected first minister of Northern Ireland's cross-community Assembly, Ulster Unionist Party leader David Trimble, said he tried negotiating "at long distance" with MacCionnaith, who "has proved to be totally intransigent, saying no to every reasonable suggestion that was made."

Trimble, an Orangeman who was elected Ulster Unionist leader after championing the right of Protestants to march down Garvaghy Road in 1995, didn't say what offers the Orangemen made.

MacCionnaith said he told Trimble's emissary that Garvaghy Road residents would consider allowing Orangemen to march in 1999 if they backed off now and got into direct negotiations. But this suggestion was rejected, he said.

Algeria imposes Arabic as official language

ALGIERS (AP) - Despite widespread opposition, Algeria's government was preparing to celebrate the country's independence by banning the official use of all languages except Arabic.

Starting tomorrow, the 36th anniversary of Algeria's independence from France, Arabic will become the only official language in this multi-cultural North African country.

Over the past 10 days, the law has provoked protests among the country's Berbers, who represent a third of Algeria's population and speak their own language, Berber, also known as Tamazight.

The law also would prohibit from official use other languages including French, which is still widely used in this former French colony, especially in urban areas and among educated people.

Many Algerians consider the Arabic-only law an attempt by the military-backed government to court favor with supporters of Islamic movements.

Since 1992, the Algerian author-

ities have been fighting an Islamic insurgency that broke out after the government canceled parliamentary elections. Muslim parties were set to win.

Neither the government nor the insurgents, however, has been able to gain the upper hand in the conflict that has left an estimated 75,000 people dead.

The most impassioned protests against the new law have been in the city of Tizi-Ouzou, a largely Berber town about 90 kilometers east of the capital Algiers.

In Tizi-Ouzou and Bejaia, near-by port city, Arabic-language signs have been destroyed. Demonstrators in recent days have shouted, "We are not Arabs."

The region has been shaken by unrest since late June when Muslim militants assassinated Lounes Matoub, a popular Berber singer.

The Berbers, an ancient group of tribes, have long fought to preserve their language and several language revolts since independence have been repressed.

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Fires force Floridians to flee

By BRAD LISTON

DAYTONA BEACH (Reuters) — An entire county on Florida's fire-ravaged north coast was all but abandoned yesterday as fires that have burned 800 sq. km. across the state sent thousands fleeing ahead of the crackling flames.

Flagler County's 45,000 residents were told to evacuate on Friday and officials said 95 percent had responded to the order, most heading into neighboring counties to await the end of the fires that have tormented the state since late May.

Left behind in the sparsely populated county of about 1,200 sq. km. were local firefighters and US Division of Forestry crews trying to protect as many homes and businesses as possible from the brush fires engulfing the area.

"I'll tell you what's going to happen," said firefighter Greg Wilk. "If they don't get some real resources in here, this fire's going to sweep back through all this and burn everything that's left standing. The idea that we're going to be able to stop it is a joke." Bunnell, the county seat, was turned into a ghost town, its streets formerly lined with American flags displayed for a July 4 Independence Day celebration that was not to be.

Fireworks, the staple of Independence Day celebrations, were as unwelcome as smuggled drugs all along the East Coast of the state, where municipalities, theme parks and civic groups cancelled their displays.

Four separate, major Flagler fires threatened to cross south into Volusia County, where 72,000 people have already been evacuated from Ormond Beach, Daytona Beach and surrounding areas.

Firefighters feared that the four blazes north, south and west of the more heavily developed areas would join into one giant blaze.

At Daytona Beach one of the world's largest sports complexes was used to help shelter people fleeing the flames.

The Daytona International Speedway was supposed to have staged the first nighttime running of the Pepsi 400 stock car race before a sold-out crowd. A spectacular Fourth of July fireworks display had also been planned, but no one was setting off fireworks.

"We cancelled our fireworks even though they're set off from a pier and explode over the Atlantic Ocean," said Daytona Beach Mayor Bud Asher. "Even when they don't pose a fire risk, there's just a strong feeling among the people that fireworks are disrespectful to all the firefighters who are trying to save their homes." The mammoth raceway was also being turned into a staging ground for some of the heavy firefighting equipment arriving on a dozen Air Force C-5 cargo planes.

More than 1,900 fires have hit the state since May 25, feeding off thick scrub brush produced by El Nino rains over the winter, and turned into fuel by a months-long drought.

About 800 sq. km. have been consumed by the flames and at least 130 homes have been burned.

There have been no deaths, but at least 67 people have been injured, most of them firefighters.



Evacuees from Flagler County, Fla., pack southbound Interstate I-95 at LPGA Blvd. as fire rescue units head north in Daytona Beach, Fla., after a countywide evacuation order resulting from wildfires on Friday. Closed for a second day, I-95 was opened for a short time for evacuees only. (AP)

Forest fires rage across Greece

Kenyan national park threatened by blaze

ATHENS, July 4 (Reuters) — At least six forest fires, including two close to Athens, raged out of control across Greece on yesterday, burning country homes and thousands of hectares of forest land, police said.

Firefighters and army units tried to contain fires in the Avlonas and Perama areas north and south of Athens, in Chalkidiki near the northern city of Thessaloniki, in the Corinth region at the Peloponnese and outside the central towns of Larissa and Volos.

The blazes were fanned by strong winds which were supposed to bring relief after three days of a scorching heatwave where temperatures averaged 40 degrees Celsius across the country.

The sky over many parts of

Athens was covered by black smoke for many hours. Electricity and telephone services were cut in Avlonas and officials said they were trying to stop the blaze from reaching mountain Parnitha overlooking the capital.

Police said the fire department was investigating what caused the fires and at least in one case arsonists were probably responsible.

Elsewhere, forest and brush fires raged through a national park in Kenya, destroying thousands of hectares of grasslands favored by rhinoceros and antelope populations, the Kenya Wildlife Service said Friday.

The fires have blackened nearly a quarter of Tsavo East National Park, said assistant director John Muhanga.

He said several fires set last weekend by nomadic herders and others have been put out, but another blaze — started by a lit cigarette apparently dropped by a tourist — has continued to burn. Tsavo East, together with the larger Tsavo West, make up the biggest wildlife park in this East African nation. A number of endangered species, such as rhino and giraffe antelope, have their sanctuaries in Tsavo East. Muhanga said fire has destroyed nearly all grassland in the southeastern part of the park. Animals have fled the fire, he said.

Holbrook was due to return to Belgrade for more talks with Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, who he had met for five hours on Friday night.

More than 300 people have been killed this year since Serbian forces began a bloody campaign against the clandestine Kosovo Liberation Army fighting for independence for

the province.

The KLA's struggle has undercut Rugova's non-violent stance, but Holbrook told him: "Dr Rugova, we honor you for your commitment for a peaceful solution and we reaffirm our support to you and our intention to work closely with you."

"Thank you very much," Rugova replied. "I ask more involvement of you in the solution of Kosovo questions and Kosovo problems."

Recent US contacts with the KLA prompted a cool response from European leaders. They prefer to deal only with Rugova as the elected moderate representative of the ethnic Albanians, who make up 90 percent of Kosovo's 1.8 million people.

As well as meeting Rugova, Holbrook said he had seen hardliners who strongly back independence for Serbia's southernmost province.

"We have met with most, if not all, political parties and movements in Kosovo and heard a wide range of views," he said.

"On some issues everyone is in agreement. On others there are internal political factors that are not the United States' concern."

"We are here to help the Albanian people of Kosovo, and all people of Kosovo, in their search for human

dignity, peace and security."

Holbrook, who has been conducting shuttle diplomacy on Kosovo off and on for months and has warned that the conflict could ignite another Balkan war, held talks alternately at the United States Information Services office, and at the offices of Rugova's moderate Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK).

Among the people Holbrook was thought to have met were newspaper editor Veton Surroi, member of an ethnic Albanian negotiating team appointed by Rugova to talk to the Serbian side, and Adem Demaci, president of the Parliamentary Party of Kosovo, who spent 28 years as a political prisoner.

Holbrook's effort has been geared to helping ethnic Albanians to organize and link themselves meaningfully to the KLA so that his efforts to promote a ceasefire and productive negotiations on the status of Kosovo would not be disrupted by uncontrolled fighting in the countryside.

Albright reassures Japan as Clinton ends China trip

US President Bill Clinton arrived home early yesterday after what he called a "fascinating" nine-day visit to China, saying he hoped Chinese and US presidents meet on a regular basis in the future.

Asked if he would like to see similar Sino-US summits held on a yearly basis, Clinton replied: "If it moves right, it'll go that way."

US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, meanwhile, soothed Japanese worries about the improving relations between Washington and Beijing, saying ties with Tokyo remained the cornerstone of US policy in Asia.

In talks with Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, Foreign Minister Keizo Obuchi and at a news conference, Albright's message was that the US-Japan alliance was "rock solid for the 21st century" just as it has been for the last four decades.

"The alliance between our two nations is the embodiment of our unshakable friendship. It is the cornerstone of our strategic policy in Asia," she told the news conference.

Albright said that in her meetings with Hashimoto and Obuchi, they agreed there was nothing to fear from better Washington-Beijing ties.

"Both [Hashimoto and Obuchi] agreed that the improvement in US-Chinese relations is very much in Japan's interest as well. In fact, it is a win-win-win outcome for the people of the United

States, Japan and China. For relations between, and among, our three nations are not a zero-sum game," she said.

Standing beside Albright, Obuchi signalled Japan was happy with her remarks. "We highly appreciate her visit as it contributes to the maintenance of a close exchange of views and the coordination of policy between our two countries," he said.

Albright came directly to Tokyo from Hong Kong, where Clinton ended his China tour.

During her half-hour meeting with Hashimoto, Albright discussed Clinton's visit to China, stressing it was not at the sacrifice of Japan, according to Japanese officials.

Hashimoto in return lauded Clinton's trip as being "very successful," saying he was impressed by the joint press conference of Clinton and Chinese President Jiang Zemin where the two leaders publicly expressed differences in their views.

The US president, at Beijing's request, visited only China on his trip, miffing Japan and South Korea.

The US is now talking about building a strategic partnership with communist China. Analysts say Japan fears this could undermine its place as America's major ally in Asia.

"The Japanese get worried when we are too distant or too close to China," one US official

said. This is compounded now because of the Asian financial crisis which has shaken Japan's confidence in its economy, its prime source of influence in the post-Cold War world.

Albright said she told Hashimoto that the US was encouraged by measures Japan has taken in the past week to get its recession-hit economy moving again.

"As the president [Clinton] indicated yesterday, we now look forward to Japan taking swift, concerted action to implement these measures," she said.

Japan acted on Thursday to clear its 77 trillion yen (\$546 billion) mountain of problem loans through a plan for public "bridge banks" to take over failed institutions while keeping sound borrowers afloat.

The long-awaited plan seeks to answer criticism from the US and elsewhere about Japan's frail banking sector.

At the start of yesterday's meeting, Hashimoto handed over to Albright an English translation of the proposal for Clinton.

Following her 15-hour visit, Albright was to return to Washington yesterday.

Clinton is the first US president to visit China since the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre soured relations between the two countries. Jiang met with Clinton at the White House last October. (Reuters)

Kosovo solution must be peaceful — Holbrook

PRISTINA, Serbia, (Reuters) — US mediator Richard Holbrook wound up six hours of talks in Kosovo yesterday by urging a peaceful solution to the province's bloody conflict.

Holbrook, who said he planned to extend his latest round of shuttle diplomacy on the troubled Serbian province by at least another day, also strongly endorsed moderate ethnic Albanian leader Ibrahim Rugova.

"The US believes that the solution of the Kosovo problem must be peaceful," Holbrook said in brief remarks to the press in Pristina, with Rugova by his side.

"We do not support or encourage in any way action by security or military forces or violent means to solve these problems."

"They're long-standing and they're deep but they will only get deeper if force is their solution," he said.

Holbrook was due to return to Belgrade for more talks with Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, who he had met for five hours on Friday night.

More than 300 people have been killed this year since Serbian forces began a bloody campaign against the clandestine Kosovo Liberation Army fighting for independence for

the province.

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Quakes hit southern Turkey, 700 hurt

ISTANBUL (Reuters) — Two earthquakes shook southern Turkey yesterday, injuring around 700 people, local officials said.

The first tremor, measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale, struck an area where at least 140 people died in an earthquake last weekend.

An official at the local governor's office in Adana province told

Reuters there were no reports of any deaths in yesterday's quakes.

Around 700 people were treated at local hospitals for mostly minor injuries, the officials said. About 130 were being kept in hospital but none was in a critical condition.

Adana deputy governor Arslanhan Totuk told the private NTV channel most injuries were sustained as

residents tried to flee their homes during the first quake, which struck in the early hours of the morning.

"Some people jumped from the second or third floors of their apartment blocks in panic," he said. "If they hadn't panicked, there would have been no injuries."

Japan successfully launches Mars probe

TOKYO (Reuters) — Japan yesterday successfully launched its first interplanetary probe to Mars on a mission that hopes to gather further evidence on whether the Red Planet could once have been warm enough to support life.

"The rocket was successfully launched," said a spokeswoman

from the launch centre at Kagoshima on Japan's southernmost island of Kyushu.

Carrying 14 different kinds of experiments and instruments developed by five countries — Japan, Canada, Sweden, Germany and the United States, its 700 million kilometer journey will put the probe into Mars' atmosphere in October 1999.

The launch date was partly chosen because it is the first anniversary of the landing on Mars of the US-built Pathfinder probe.

Unlike Pathfinder, which broadcast data from the surface of Mars, Planet-B will do all its work from high above the planet. Although measurement of the

planet's magnetic field and solar wind activity make up much of the research plan, scientists around the world are also keenly awaiting data from experiments in which sound waves will be used to measure if there is water below the planet's surface.

Photographs from the US mission have shown dark patches on the planet that could be ice, raising speculation about life forms on the planet.

The future of Japan's space program rests on the success of the mission as there have been calls for it to be curtailed as too expensive at a time when Japan is going through an economic recession.

8 shot dead in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG, July 4 (Reuters) — Gunmen killed eight people and wounded many more when they fired into a crowd watching a World Cup soccer match in a South African township on Friday night, national radio reported yesterday.

Police told the radio the attack occurred in a bar in Richmond, southwest of Durban in KwaZulu-Natal province.

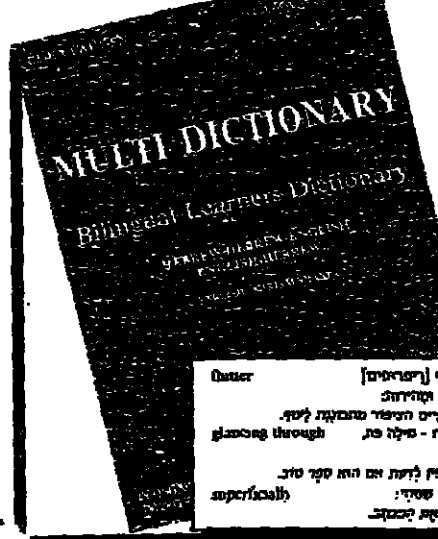
The bar was packed with people watching the quarter-final game between Brazil and Denmark.

Richmond has been the scene of a number of killings over the last year.

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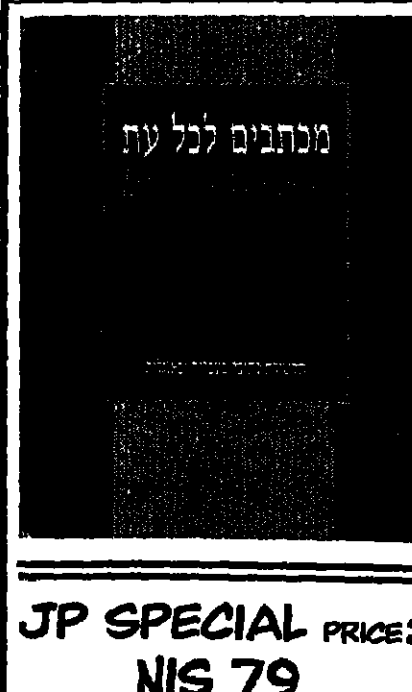
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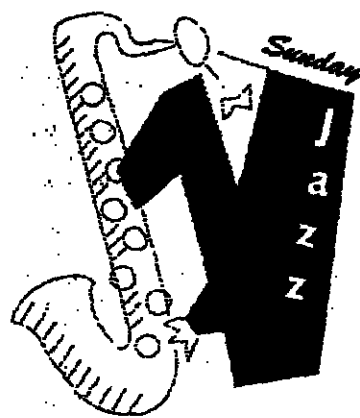
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Collections that groove



By David Isaacson

Two of the summer's funkier releases represent two quite different decades. John Scofield played in the underrated Miles Davis band of

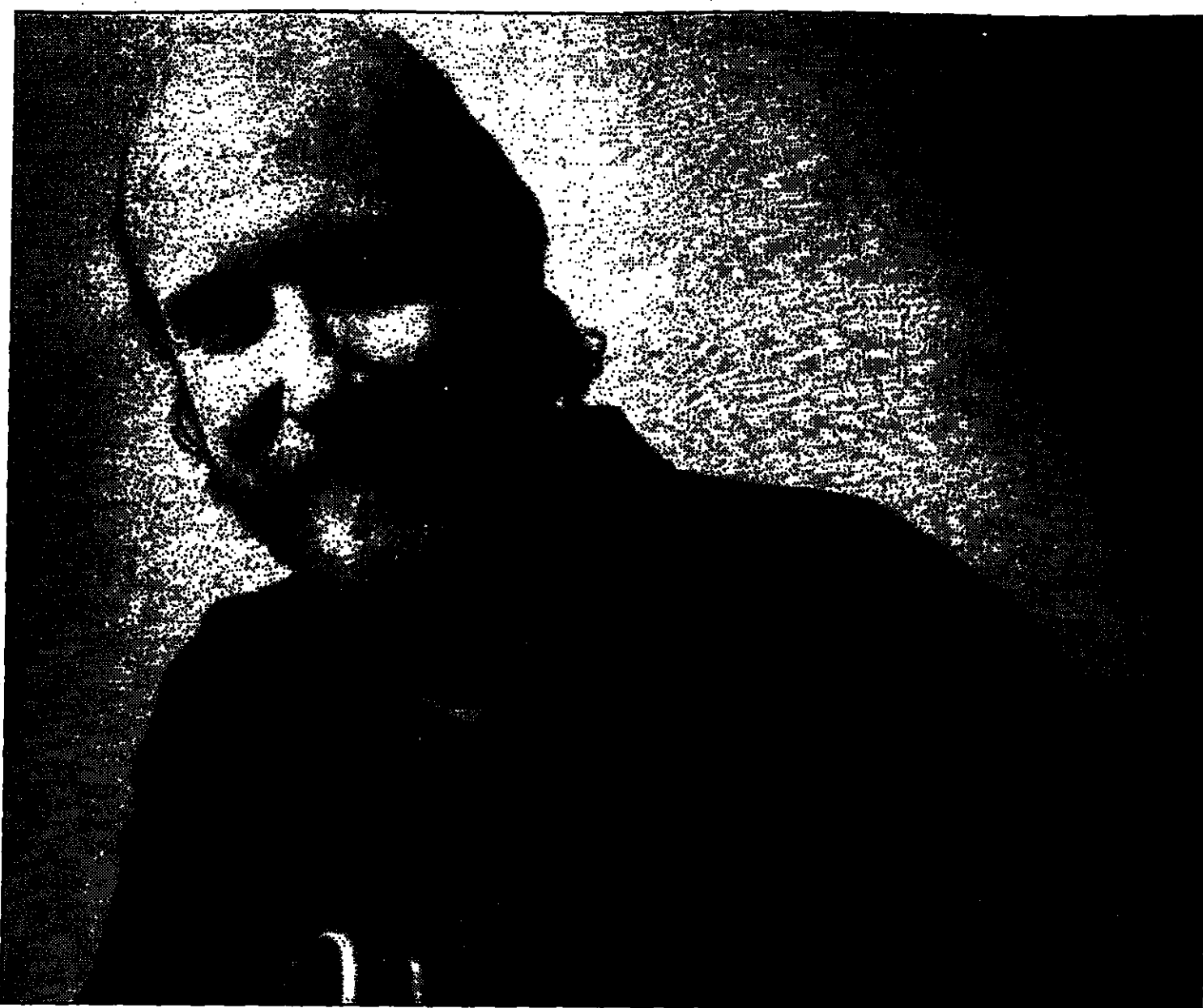
A GO GO
John Scofield
(Halcón)

ANOTHER STORY
Courtney Pine
(Halcón)

THE CAT
Jimmy Smith
(Halcón)

the mid-Eighties, and you can hear the influence of that time on *A Go Go*, especially in the bold rhythms and engaging harmonies. In place of Miles' dark menace however, Scofield—who over the years has consistently shown that the electric guitar has a place beyond the confines of rock—is bright and colorful. Funk hasn't sounded this clean since Cannonball Adderley's heyday in the late Fifties and early Sixties.

The title track's catchy, groove-laden choruses are enchantingly laid down by John Medeski's haunting wurlitzer and clarinet. Scofield's own playing is, as always, mature and restrained, melodious and considered, yet also often genuinely thrilling. On the other nine tracks, the music ranges from loud and exploratory to light and even transparent. Throughout, there's a subtle, moving undercurrent.



John Scofield personifies the groove of the Eighties.

rent. This is medium funk at its classiest.

A Go Go is so tight and spontaneous you would think it was put together by a regular band. Amazingly, this is the first time Scofield has played with groove-masters Billy Martin (percussion), Medeski and Chris Wood (bass). And they cut the disc in three days. Sounds like the birth of a supergroup.

COURTNEY Pine's *Underground* was one of the best discs of last year. With its use of computer loops, DJ turntables and other electronic paraphernalia, it was also one of the most radical. Now *Another Story*—a collection of remixes from *Underground* and Pine's Modern Day Jazz Stories—goes even further.

Pine likes a deep groove; on *Another Story*, we're talking a

ravine. Pine took jazz into the modern, urban territory of hip-hop, dance and trance; on *Another Story*, remixers with names like Flytronix and 4Hero weave their way down the mean, dirty streets of techno-funk. Purists will say it ain't jazz, but that's what they said about Coltrane. Besides, Pine's crystal-clear solos are like a guiding light. Whether playing a soothing bass clarinet (in tandem with

Reginald Veal's double bass) on "The In-Sense Song," or a sweet soprano sax on "Don't Explain," his free-spirited lines rise above the earthy, rhythmic booming that should make this a dance floor standard.

Included in the disc's generous 78 minutes are three covers of both Billie Holiday's *Don't Explain* and the Aretha Franklin Sixties hit "Tryin' Times." So you won't want

to play *Another Story* back to back, or even from start to finish; but for a blast to shake out the cobwebs, it's dynamite.

IF JOHN Scofield personifies the groove of the Eighties, and Courtney Pine that of the Nineties, then Jimmy Smith was well ahead of the game in the Sixties.

Still today, when all sorts of bands incorporate the Hammond organ, Jimmy Smith remains jazz's finest exponent of an instrument often associated with the cheap-and-nasty milieu of banquet-hall bands whose members sport permed hairdos, ruffled-front shirts and powder-blue tuxes. Smith might not be quite as "incredible" as his moniker on *The Cat* would have us believe but, placing the electric organ center stage, he created a highly influential style incorporating swirling sheets of sound within pronounced rhythmic parameters.

Notwithstanding those critics who turn their noses up at Smith's popular flirtation with big-band (they tend to prefer his early work with trumpeter Lee Morgan or his later partnership with guitarist Wes Montgomery), *The Cat* has aged very well. Originally recorded in 1964, and now re-released in Verve's Master Edition series, it was arranged by a young Lalo Schiffrin, before he became one of Hollywood's leading musical lights. Marshalling a 15-piece brass section, Schiffrin unites songs from movie soundtracks and blues standards into a coherent, groovy whole.

But *The Cat* is really about Smith. Whether adopting a feline posture on the title track—to reflect the scene in the movie *Joy House* where Jane Fonda dances in front of a mirror—or updating the swing of the Duke Ellington era on "Basin Street Blues," he defines the quintessentially 1960s beat. Extended solos were still a bit avant garde on 1964 albums, and there's nothing on *The Cat* to compare with Smith's wonderful rendition of "When Johnny Comes Marching Home." Neither does it really cook like Smith's 1957 Blue Note debut *The Sermon*. It is nevertheless great fun, especially if your view of the *Swinging Sixties* is a positive one.

Streisand weds

By DENISE LEVIN

On a clear day two years after their summer of love began, Barbra Streisand and James Brolin exchanged wedding vows during a private ceremony at her estate overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

Streisand's son, Jason, gave the bride away, publicist Dick Guttman said. Brolin's son, Josh, was the best man at the ceremony held last Wednesday in the formal living room. Wednesday was the second anniversary of their first date.

Rumors the wedding day was near surfaced a week ago and gained momentum as a huge white tent went up this week on her compound. Guests included Quincy Jones, John Travolta and his wife, Kelly Preston.

Brolin, who calls his bride Bezer, proposed four or five times to Streisand before he found just the right ring in January 1997. She began wearing the ring, but the engagement was not officially announced until publicists confirmed it months later.

Satellite TV trucks had to bivouac a half-mile (kilometer) from the house, where camera crews and reporters hovered near the driveway in anticipation of arrivals and a glimpse of someone famous. A private security force kept order. Guttman had requested that media helicopters stay away from the estate so sacred vows could be heard.

Brolin, 57, stars as Lt. Col. Bill Kelly on the syndicated TV series *Pensacola: Wings of Gold*. His other credits include *Capricorn One*, *Westworld*, and *Gable and Lombard* as well as the TV series *Marcus Welby, M.D.*

Streisand, 56, sings, directs and has starred in a string of movies, including *On a Clear Day, You Can See Forever*, *Yentl*, *The Prince of Tides* and *The Mirror Has Two Faces*. Streisand is divorced from actor Elliott Gould. Brolin was married twice before. (AP)

Too much and too little

Sabra Sounds



By Shai Tzur

Two of Israel's most popular singers have recently returned from hiatus with new studio albums, and both records bear their distinct imprimatur. Yet, while one album feels

KE'SHE AT NOGA'AT BI
Boaz Sharabi
NMC

MECHAR ULAI MUKDAM
Yehuda Poliker
NMC

unfinished, the other feels a little too finished. It has been six years since Boaz Sharabi's last album, *At Li Laya (You're My Night)* which gave us the Ron Arad anthem, "Lashir I'ma" among other tracks. In a career spanning some 30 years, Sharabi has become famous as one of the great sentimentalists of the Israeli music scene. With his distinctive Yeminite vocal styles and taste for rich orchestrations, Sharabi has always walked a line between the sensibilities of Oriental music and the tastes of the mainstream Israeli audience.

This trait is clearly on display on his new album, *Ke'she At Noga'at Bi (When You Touch Me)*. The songs have everything you might expect from Sharabi, who works here with some long-time musical associates. They include producer Kobi Oshrat and lyricists Haim Ben-Zeev and the ubiquitous Elud Manor.

The songs speak of love and heartbreak. Musically, Sharabi and Oshrat know when to turn on both sugar and drama. Lush string-section orchestrations often provide a counterpoint to Sharabi's throaty crooning.

THE album has a decidedly familiar feeling to it. As always, Sharabi has come up with a number of moving tunes. The sublime title track holds its own with any of Sharabi's classics, such as "Pamela" or "Lashir" ("To give"), while "At Li Yotzer Li Mi Harosh Umi Halev" ("I can't get you out of my head or my heart") wonderfully demonstrates the orchestral theatrics.

And yet, taken as a whole, the album seems a little too familiar,



Stripped-down Poliker

perhaps even a bit cloying. The chunky tunes—"Yesh Lach Yom Huledet" ("You Have a Birthday") for one—stand out more than usual. And with its unimaginative use of Spanish guitar and mandolins, the album feels much more calculated than any of Sharabi's previous work. He seems determined to press all the right AOR (adult-oriented rock) buttons like some sort of local Michael Bolton.

For fans of mellow, romantic music, Sharabi is hard to beat. Cynics and diabetics, however, should beware.

YEHUDA Poliker's *Me'char Ulai Mukdam (Late Maybe It's Early)* is his first studio record in nearly three years. Like Sharabi's latest effort, Poliker's new album also has the artist's characteristic stamp on it. However, while the Sharabi record feels highly familiar, *Me'char Ulai Mukdam* moves in an unfamiliar direction.

With his last studio record, *Hayeled Betoch (The Child in You)*, Poliker managed to soften his serious image with tracks which were whiter and lighter than ever before. *Me'char Ulai Mukdam* confounds expectations in an even more marked way. Instead of showcasing Poliker's usually somber lyrics, the album is a collection of instrumental tracks.

The last few years have seen a number of pop artists make forays into the world of instrumental music, from Paul McCartney's

orchestral suites to Charlie Watts' hard bop jazz combo. For his part, Poliker presents 14 tracks of stripped-down music, featuring only his guitar and Yoad Nevo's keyboards.

Poliker's musical style is as somber as his lyrics. The tracks feature layers of overtaken guitar, with the synthesizer providing the backdrop. The mood is that of loneliness and the album is reminiscent of Mark Knopfler or Ry Cooder's soundtrack work.

Herein lies the problem. While Poliker is rightly praised as a great lyricist, it would be a stretch to call him a guitar virtuoso. His playing is good, but not complicated enough musically to sustain an entire album.

At their best, the tracks feel like Poliker songs in which the vocal section was removed. Examples include "Lehiyot Sham" ("Being There"), "Laylah Tov Ahava" ("Goodnight, Love") and the title song. Most of the other tracks have a moody sameness to them. The music feels a little too bare, a little too forgettable, more like atmospheric noodling than anything else.

When a musician decides to go the instrumental route, he normally does it to experiment with the instrument or to try his hand at orchestrations. In the case of *Me'char Ulai Mukdam* neither holds true. The album seems more like the soundtrack to a movie. Better yet, it feels like the soundtrack to a Yehuda Poliker album.

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Inese Galante, one of the rising operatic sopranos on the international circuit, makes her Israeli debut singing arias by Mozart and Puccini with the Haifa Symphony Orchestra this week (tonight through Thursday at Haifa Auditorium and Saturday at the Noga Theater in Jaffa).

The Puccini arias on the program, sung by Mimì, Lauretta and Magda, all come from beautiful, touching love stories which resemble each other, yet each has its own very distinct character.

Puccini wrote a dozen operas, and seven of them are titled with their heroines' names. Most of them are similar: they are beautiful women who love unconditionally, for which it seems they are severely punished, as most of his heroines die in the end.

Tosca, the Roman diva, loves the painter Cavaradossi and is even willing to kill for him but all in vain. At the end of the opera she jumps to her death. Cio Cio San, the petite young geisha from Nagasaki, known as Madama Butterfly, finds herself with a little boy and without a husband.

When the husband does return three years later with all her child farewell and kills herself. It is better to die with honor, she sobs, than to live without it. And Liu in *Turandot* also takes her own life in order to save her honor and the honor and the life of the man she loves.

Other heroines die too. Mimì, who loves Rodolfo with all her heart in *La Bohème*, dies of tuberculosis, leaving Rodolfo heart-brokenly calling her name as the curtain descends. Manon Lescaut, in the opera that bears her name, ends her life alone, lost

and abandoned, a miserable death which grimly contrasts with the gaiety of her youth.

In *Suor Angelica*, Angelica kills herself once she realizes that the society around her will never forgive her the birth of her son outside marriage. And in *Il Tabarro* Michele kills the lover of his young wife, Giorgetta, who has to watch the body thrown at her face although she herself remains alive.

Puccini, so it seems, enjoyed ending his operas with a tear-jerking death scene.

Why do all these heroines have to die? Why can't Mimì and Rodolfo live happily ever after? Why is Butterfly not ready to fight for what she justifiably deserves and confront Pinkerton?

Absurd as it might sound, the answer is that all these women are very powerful and each one knows exactly what she wants and how to achieve it. Moreover, each has self respect and none is willing to give up her ideals merely for an easier life.

Yet Puccini did not only write tragedies in which the heroine's body is the last image as the curtain descends on the last bars of music.

In his opera cum operetta *La Rondine*, written towards the end of his life, we find a heroine who very much wants to enjoy romantic love but fails. Magda, La Rondine (the swallow of the title) is reminiscent of Violetta in Verdi's *La Traviata* and of Puccini's Manon in *Manon Lescaut* and Mimì.

Magda is a kept woman, she lives with a rich man who provides all she desires while she repays him with sex. It was common practice at the time, and Society turned a blind eye. But that same Society never accepted these women outside of their roles as kept women. Though

Magda yearns for romance she must ultimately return heartbroken to her former life, a life from which she tried to escape and succeeded even if only fleetingly.

Other heroines enjoy a better fate. In the social satire *Gianni Schicchi*, Lauretta does manage to win Rinaldo, the man she loves, although not before she threatens to throw herself into the river if she is not allowed to marry him. And in *La Fanciulla del West* Puccini presents a new

heroine, who is ideal for the American male society which provided the setting for this very American, almost Hollywood style, opera. But Mimì, who does all she can in order to get the man she loves, is the exception to all the other Puccini heroines who love passionately and are punished for it with the ultimate penalty. Puccini's message, time after time, is that the only reward for sincere, true and deep love is death.

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#2 3 15	EMMA SHAPLIN	CARMINE MEO
#3 1 2	VIA	HAZMANA LEMACHOL
#4 NEW 1	VIA	HITMAN 9
#5 2 16	DANA INTERNATIONAL	DIVA - BEST OF
#6 5 5	BEN ARTZI	HAIM MISHAL ATZMI
#7 7 2	YEHUDA POLIKER	MECHAR ULAI MUKDAM
#8 4 25	VIA	JUBILEE CELEBRATION
#9 10 10	MASSIVE ATTACK	MEZZANINE
#10 RE 1	MICHA SHEETTRIT	MASHMERIM V'NOTZOT
#11 21 6	ALABINA	ALABINA
#12 RE 1	YEHUDA POLIKER	LIVE IN LESARIA
#13 14 12	ACHINQAM NINI	& PHILHARMONIC ORCH.
#14 RE 1	LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY	POSTCARDS FROM...
#15 15 2	ACE OF BASE	FLOWERS

Tower Records' top-selling albums for last week

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China becomes a partner

It seems almost everyone has been impressed by the success of the US-China summit in forging a new partnership, except for President Bill Clinton's domestic opponents, forever frustrated at being unable to dent his universal popularity.

A week before the president's visit there, Republicans tried to bulldoze through Congress a raft of measures to restrict economic aid and trade with China. The timing of the exercise exposed it as no more than a smoke screen of moral rhetoric hiding a cheap attempt to undermine the president of the United States on one of the most important foreign missions of his term. The consummate performance of Clinton and President Jiang Zemin in this most complex of international relations dwarfed the petty maneuvers.

Not least of the visit's achievements was a formal agreement by both nations to cease contingency nuclear targeting of each other's cities. After all the fuss over recent nuclear testing by India and Pakistan, this treaty, similar to one agreed with Russia after the end of the Soviet Union, deserved maximum attention. While the China trip did get extensive world coverage, US political talk shows continued to be dominated by the minutiae of the Kenneth Starr, Linda Tripp, and Monica Lewinsky soap opera. In a week in which CNN was exposed for airing a fantastic but fabricated story on the CIA in Laos, the persistent sniping at Clinton's heels and the trivialization of the China summit could only fuel growing worries about the alarming irresponsibility of multi-billion dollar news media empires driven by a relentless hunt for ratings and profits rather than for truth.

Like it or not, the relationship between the United States and China is certain to be the most significant in the coming decades of the new century. This is not lost on Japan, which is openly peeved by its apparent declining importance in American eyes. The fact that Clinton and his foreign policy team have understood the

shift in the tide of Asian history is to their great credit. History undoubtedly will footnote the narrow-minded partisan carping of Clinton's critics when placed against his wider vision of where American interests lie.

China's faults and failings have never been ignored in the media of any democratic country, in speeches by Clinton, nor by dissidents and lobbyists for human rights. The balance of China's virtues and importance all too often is ignored. The doomsayers who last year predicted the speedy disappearance of Hong Kong as a significant entity once it returned to China have been confounded. Clinton's visit to the unique "special area" did not demonstrate the eclipse of Hong Kong – even if it was an interesting illustration of the surrender of British influence to American in yet another former colony.

So how did the Chinese assess the importance of the Clinton visit? From the leader of the democratic opposition in Hong Kong, to the students at Beijing University, to the presidency of China, the verdict has been nearly unanimous: the trip was as historic as Richard Nixon's and will have equally far-reaching effects. Despite the overwhelming emphasis on trade and human rights in Western reporting, the official Chinese media highlighted two entirely different aspects of the trip as significant. First came the nuclear anti-targeting treaty, then Clinton's interest in and respect for the culture of China. Trade, Taiwan, and the differences over human rights and democracy came further down the list.

There is some Chinese wisdom there. First remove warlike contingencies, then learn about cultural differences that might impede friendship, and all the rest of the problems fall into the realm of open debate. It's a sensible formula for any tricky bilateral relations. For relations between the great powers of East and West it's an essential one, and both Clinton and Jiang deserve the highest praise for giving it so successful a shot.

Ball in Nigeria's court

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan appeared to have pulled off a significant diplomatic coup this week by securing the release of political prisoners in Nigeria, including the man elected president in the last free exercise of democracy in 1993, Moshood Abiola. It was the first important sign of a possible change of direction in Nigerian politics since the death of the country's unlamented pariah, Gen. Sani Abacha.

At least everyone hopes it is so. By the weekend, no release had happened and Nigerian officials had reverted to their familiar evasiveness when asked why not: "security measures, procedures." Although the military dictators in Abuja have issued an impressive collection of lying press releases over the last five years, the word of Annan and Chief Emeka Anyaoku, secretary-general of the Commonwealth, is good enough for everybody. The world must assume

that even the Nigerian military would not lie to such distinguished interlocutors and that the release of the political detainees must be imminent.

The British government has rightly warned the new ruler, Gen. Abdulsalam Abubakar, that only Abiola's release will mark a great step forward in the world's attitude to Nigeria – "a critical test for the international community about the strength of the commitment to return to civilian democratic society." Abiola's supporters are unhappy that he may have abandoned his mandate for the presidency in exchange for freedom, a report they see as indicating duress. In fact, the face-saver for both Abiola and the government would appear to be that his mandate would have expired in 1997 anyway. There is no further excuse for prevarication – Nigeria must step back on the road to democracy that it has abandoned once too often.



What about the living?

DAVID WEINBERG

Posters went up in Mea Shearim this week decrying the "final solution" (!) reportedly reached between the Municipality of Jerusalem and the Jerusalem Rabbinate for dealing with the graves found in the path of the city's Road 1 near Pisgat Ze'ev.

The wildly extreme language of the posters condemned Jerusalem Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Kallitz and, by inference, also Rabbi Shalom Eliashiv, the leading haredi halachic arbiter of today, for being anti-halachic "collaborators" with the Zionist entity.

Faced with renewed haredi (specifically the radical Atrah Kadisha, controlled by Satmar's anti-Zionist Eda Haredim) opposition to the completion of the long-delayed and badly needed road, Mayor Ehud Olmert has pulled back from the settlement reached.

He now says there's a "budget problem" that is stalling things. Funny how the budget ran out just as the bones were discovered! Olmert wants us to think he needs budgets for road-paving. In truth, he needs money to pay off the haredim.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Netanyahu last week promised the United Torah Judaism (UTJ) party that he would replace the Antiquities Authority council with members "more sensitive" to haredi grave concerns, and it was widely reported that this also means the sacking of Authority director Amir Drori. In other words, the most uncompromising haredim will gain veto power over archaeological digs and the ability to build in Israel.

What is so sad is that all this is patently unnecessary under Jewish law. Halacha can solve the problem of graves that stand in the way of important public works developments. Inexpensively. It's the murky, underhanded axis between extreme haredi political interests and unprincipled secular politi-

cians, along with the total capitulation of the national Chief Rabbinate to the haredim – that is at fault.

Rabbi Yisrael Rosen of the Tsomet Institute and Prof. Ze'ev Safrai of Bar-Ilan University's Land of Israel studies department each independently have shown that the *Shulchan Aruch* (Rabbi Yosef Caro's authoritative Code of

I have a problem with the diehard stance taken by some haredi extremists on behalf of the dead. Always the dead

Jewish Law, Yoreh Dei'ah chapter 364/5) and Maimonides Code (*Impurities* chapter 8/5-6), along with later-day halachic arbiters such as Rabbi Akiva Eiger and Rabbi Shaul Yisraeli – all support, even mandate, the removal for burial elsewhere of graves or an entire graveyard that stands in the way of an important roadway already under construction.

They maintain that there's no need to enter into complicated and expensive halachic solutions for such graves, such as shifting the roadway aside or burying the bones deep under special halachic air-holes covered with concrete. Graves that "damage the public" can be moved, they formally assert.

With solid, respectful halachic backing like this – even if the rulings are disputed by others – explain to me please why the secular authorities of Israel have to kow-tow to the most radical, least accommodating interpreters of

halacha. Where is the coalition of moderates, rabbis and secular politicians, that should be coming together with sensitive solutions on this issue, for the greater good of building the Land of Israel and the glory of Jewish law?

Let's think my judgment of Atrah Kadisha and those behind it too harsh, consider the following anomaly. How and why is it that the haredim haven't found any graves in the neighborhoods they build for themselves – Har Nof, Shuafat, Sanhedria, Ramot and Neveh Ya'acov, for example? Or Har Homa. The archeologists are certain that Shuafat is built over graves. Curious, isn't it?

The explanation is that the "desecration of graves" has become a haredi call-to-arms, a rallying cry used when convenient, usually during the haredi summer fundraising season and during government budget cycles. Or before Jerusalem municipal elections, which might explain Olmert's reluctance to push for a just, fast settlement.

Beyond all the above, I have a problem with the diehard stance taken by some haredi extremists on behalf of the dead. Always the dead. They do wonderful work in the *hevra kadisha* societies, compassionate and difficult work in *Hesed Shel Emet* after terrorist bombings, and battle for the dignity of the very-long-since-dead. But what about the living? Wouldn't it be nice to see these people turn out in the hundreds of thousands to demonstrate solidarity with the movement for the protection of the environment, or enlist en masse in the Israel Cancer Society's drive to stamp out smoking?

Isn't there a distortion of priorities and values in the absolute and sometimes seemingly exclusive concern for the dead? Tradition and our past are very important. But what of our shared future?

Megan's Law causes crime

ALAN DERSHOWITZ

Evidence appears to be mounting that "Megan's Law" – the sex registration statute enacted in many US states and federally, following the murder of Megan Kanka by a convicted sex offender – may be causing more crimes than it prevents.

Around the US there have been disturbing stories of unlawful vigilante actions directed against former sex offenders who have served their terms.

The most recent case arose in New Jersey, the original home of Megan's Law. The neighbor of a paroled rapist was arrested for firing five bullets into his neighbor's home.

The shootings occurred two weeks after the police circulated flyers notifying the paroled man's neighbors that a convicted rapist lived in their neighborhood.

The suspect's mother said that the suspect had read the Megan's Law flyer and had said, "Oh my God, my baby sister lives next door to a rapist." She continued, "His mind just snapped that something might happen to his baby sister."

Though law-enforcement officials are condemning unlawful vigilante acts such as those attributed to the suspect in this case, it should be clear to them that flyers of the kind they circulate can be an incitement to violence, especially when read by a disturbed person with a mind ready to "snap" at the thought of living next to a convicted offender.

No one wants to live next door to a sex offender, but convicted sex offenders who have served their terms and who pose no current danger are entitled to return to the community and live their lives in peace.

The victim in this case had been paroled in 1992 and has stayed out of trouble for the past six years. He is employed, has not violated his parole, and has bothered no one.

The bullets directed at him came close to killing a 66-year-old woman in an apartment above his as she watched television. The

paroled sex offender has been driven from his home by the neighbors, and has not been seen since the shooting.

In Los Angeles, a van owned by a man whose name appeared on a CD-ROM of convicted sex offenders was firebombed just days after

There are better ways to protect the legitimate interests of frightened families from sexual predators without destroying the lives of people who would never harm anyone

the CD-ROM was made available to the public. Others around the country, who have been publicly identified under Megan's Law, have been subjected to threats, intimidation and harassment by frightened neighbors, sometimes egged on by opportunistic local politicians who are contributing to the frenzied witch hunt for suspected sexual predators.

Even prosecutors who favor Megan's Law, such as New Jersey Attorney General Peter Verniero, have expressed concern that challenges to the constitutionality of Megan's Law may be strengthened by increasing vigilatism against prior sex offenders who are publicly identified and targeted by Megan's Law flyers or CD-ROMs. Several challenges to Megan's Law are now pending in the courts and these vigilante cases are sure to be cited in opposition to the statute.

THERE are other sorts of abuses of Megan's Law as well. In San

Francisco, a 46-year-old man saw flyers identifying him as a convicted child molester who had been run out of another town. The flyers had been placed on utility poles, windshields and in apartment buildings throughout his neighborhood. There was absolutely no truth to the allegation, as an extensive police check proved. But go tell that to frightened neighbors with young children.

There is little evidence that Megan's Law is having much positive effect on reducing sexually motivated crimes, especially since the laws are often written so broadly as to include many who pose no current danger to others, such as men – now married with families – who had been found guilty of a single date rape years earlier.

Lives of innocent people who have been falsely accused are being endangered. Lives of those who serve their time for a single offense are being destroyed. The prospects for rehabilitation of past offenders who are trying to live normal lives are being damaged.

There are better ways to protect the legitimate interests of frightened families from recidivist sexual predators without destroying the lives of people who would never harm anyone. Before anyone is placed on a list of convicted sexual offenders whose presence must be made known to neighbors, the prosecution should have to prove that the person constitutes a current serious threat. This will not be easy to prove, but in the US mere suspicion should never be enough to condemn someone for life as a sexual predator.

Once a person is placed on such a public list, he or she must be accorded police protection, and it should be made an aggravated felony to harm anyone who bears the modern-day "mark of Cain."

Let us not forget that when God placed a mark on Cain, he warned that anyone who harmed him would be punished "sevenfold."

(United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

Generals in politics

DANIEL BLOCH

The political game these days is "waiting for Shabak." Will the retiring chief of general staff dive into the cold and muddy water of Israeli politics, and if he does will he join Ehud Barak as Labor's candidate for minister of defense, will he join Ronni Milo in the same capacity or will he go into politics only as a candidate for prime minister?

Another hot item in the political rumor mill is retired general Matar Vilnai. Will he join a political party? Will he try to gain political clout in order to avenge the way he was treated by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, who – by almost general consensus unjustifiably – denied him the top IDF job?

Israel is the only Western democracy today that wants army generals as civilian political leaders.

In most countries generals retire to write memoirs, serve on boards, receive honorary jobs and titles and relax in their country-side homes after years of strenuous, dedicated service.

Only rarely, in cases of national crisis, are they called to the political arena. Eisenhower and DeGaulle are two examples of former generals who succeeded in the political arena.

Most democracies discourage this phenomenon in order to draw a line between the military world and the political arena, because, as history shows, a mixture of the military leadership with politics creates Latin American-style military juntas or – worse – European-style fascism.

ISRAELI democracy behaved differently, mainly out of necessity. Because of our constant fight for survival, most of the best and the brightest of the second and third generations of the founding pioneers went into military service and built their names and

They are not necessarily the political messiah so many people are eagerly awaiting

careers there. Those who did not stay in the military were looked down upon. The older leadership and the majority of public opinion disliked those who preferred political careers. Therefore many of the old guard tried to lure the retiring senior officers to political careers in which they would start at the top, or very close to it.

But few of them had the qualities needed to shape great political leaders and statesmen. The fact that one was a courageous, charismatic field commander is important in the quest for civilian leadership but it is not enough, because in politics nobody obeys orders automatically.

In politics, advancement does not depend on the decision of your superiors but on building broad-based coalitions and by convincing the masses that you can lead them into victory in the polling booths.

Many former military leaders succeeded more in corporate management than in politics. In the political arena, they were better as number two or three under a charismatic civilian leader than as number one.

Even Yitzhak Rabin, the only retired general to reach the prime ministership, made many political mistakes, especially in his first term, because it took him a long time to understand the differences between being the top army commander to being the head of a civilian government.

In the army you know who is your enemy and who is your friend. In politics, they change roles more often than a soldier changes his socks.

A former general should not spend his time in politics settling accounts with former military colleagues or with the civilians who stopped him from reaching the top. That was the mistake of people like Ariel Sharon and Mordechai Vilnai. Should not repeat their mistakes if he seeks a political career.

Many successful military commanders are very naive in politics. Naivete ruined the chances of distinguished commanders such as Yigal Yadin, Yigal Allon and Dan Shomron. We do not know if Amnon Shabak is closer to them or to the Rabin style of civilian leadership. The jury is still out on Ehud Barak.

We surely need good people in politics. Many good people are retiring from the army and political career should be one of their options. But not every general is fit for politics, especially not for the top job.

Shabak, Vilnai and others can add spice to our dull political life. But they are not necessarily the political messiah so many people are eagerly awaiting.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

OUTRAGEOUS DOCUMENTARY

Sir, – After surfing the channels for something less tedious to watch than the World Cup (being shown on 13 of them), I landed in the middle of a very disturbing documentary on the BBC.

Time Out listed it: "The Search for Palestine" and stated it was a repeat from an earlier airing. So at least twice, this one-sided venomous anti-Israel propaganda piece was let loose on the world. More broadcasts may follow.

In the part I saw, Arab houses were shown being demolished, with crying women and children looking on.

We were told that Arabs never received building permits, so their houses were always "illegal," and consequently torn down! We were shown beautiful red-roofed villas in settlements, as opposed to slum dwellings in Arab towns and vil-

lages. We were told that the small Israeli minority in Hebron and their soldier-guards terrorized the Palestinian population, numbering in the hundreds of thousands.

An Arab schoolgirl described in glowing terms how she was "almost" kidnapped by an older Israeli settler but rescued in the nick of time by "people," presumably Palestinians. It was pointed out on a map showing the "West Bank" as a separate entity, how little of that territory was in Palestinian hands and how much still in Israeli hands.

The reporter, cum commentator, was an Arab with a genuine American accent who seemed on the verge of tears all the time. The only Israeli interviewed very briefly in the part I saw was, of all people, Daniel Barenboim, and he said nothing much to dispel the gloom.

OLD CITIZENS

Sir, – The City of London School (founded in 1442) was the first of the great British public (i.e. private) schools to admit Jews. Many of its old boys (known as "Old Citizens") now live in Israel.

We are presently compiling a list of Old Citizens resident here. May we invite any of them who are among your readers to fax us their details to 02-643-7502, so that we can send them a form to

My political views normally lie left of center, but I was shocked by the extreme anti-Israel bias of this film. The footage looked authentic; many or some of the tales of woe could well be genuine, but no mention at all was made of the historical events leading up to the present, admittedly unpleasant state of affairs.

I hope all wrongs on both sides will be remedied as soon as possible, but in the above-mentioned BBC documentary Israel was demonized, pure and simple.

I wish that someone out there, armed with the authority I lack, would protest vehemently, loud and clear, about this outrageous injustice.

CLAIRE LEEFSMA

Yokneam Illit.

fill in.

MICHAEL FOX,
MICHAEL TURNER,
ASHER WEILL

Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On July 5, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported from Chicago that Dr. Chaim Weizmann, former President of the World Zionist Organization, expressed opposition to Jewish settlement on a large scale in Trans-Jordan until the Jordan Valley had been sufficiently settled to ensure safety.

50 years ago: On July 5, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported the

full text of Count Bernadotte's proposal: The entire area of Palestine and Trans-Jordan to be split into two states, with Jerusalem to be given to the Arabs and municipal autonomy in the Jewish area; part or whole of the Negev going to king Abdullah in exchange for part of Western Galilee; defense, economic and foreign policy to be run jointly by Israel and Trans-

Jordan; free immigration for two years; Haifa, Lod Airport and oil installations to be "free." The Israeli Provisional Council rejected the proposal.

25 years ago: On July 5, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that a month-long strike by 6,000 doctors ended with an agreement for better pay, more grades and faster promotions.

Alexander Zvielli

حزب العمل

A longed-for loophole to freedom

A US-based religious court that is using a liberal definition of fraud to free 'chained' women from recalcitrant husbands has come under heavy fire — but its supporters are hoping for serious endorsement today in Jerusalem, Marilyn Henry and Ari Mermelstein report

Rabbi Moshe Morgenstern's number is 170, and rising. Along with Rabbi Emanuel Rackman, Morgenstern presides over a New York-based religious court that claims to have freed 170 agunot, "chained" women from Israel, the US, Canada, Mexico and England whose husbands refused to give them religious divorces.

The Rackman-Morgenstern court, Bet Din L'Ba' Ayot Agunot, has been denounced by the mainstream Orthodox and haredi communities. But its supporters hope to capture a significant endorsement today in Jerusalem from Justice Menachem Elon, a former deputy president of the Israeli Supreme Court, who two decades ago suggested some "courageous" action to help women.

"Jewish family law is presently palpably unfair to women," Elon, an Orthodox rabbi, said in an article published in the 1975-76 *Encyclopedia Judaica* yearbook. "For them to enjoy complete equality in the area of divorce it is necessary once again — as in the distant past — to renew the exercise by rabbinical authorities of their power to annul marriages. In this way also the aguna problem can be solved."

"The annulment of marriages is a great power which only courageous rabbis will undertake," said Elon, professor of law and recipient of the Israel Prize in Jewish law in 1979.

Annulment is used by the Rackman-Morgenstern court.

Elon and Rackman are scheduled to address a seminar on "Halachic Solutions to the Problem of Agunot," which will convene rabbis, judges, scholars, lawyers and women's rights activists. The seminar will examine proposed solutions to the problem of agunot, and will try to stimulate further discussion regarding their legitimacy, organizers said. It is sponsored by the International Jewish Women's Human Rights Watch, which was created in March by the International Council of Jewish Women and the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs to document, research and publicize the circumstances of agunot in Jewish communities around the world.

"I hope we'll begin to have a serious, scholarly discussion rather than just bawling invectives," said Sharon Shenhav of Jerusalem, an Orthodox lawyer and expert on family law who also is director of the human rights project.

SINCE establishing the religious court last year, Morgenstern and Rackman, the chancellor emeritus of Bar-Ilan University, have come under serious fire.

Critics have said that the two rabbis have no standing as deciders, and that they are undermining the integrity of the get — the divorce decree. The new bet din is "doing a tremendous disservice to women of childbearing age," said Rabbi J. David Bleich, a professor of law at Yeshiva University.

Critics contend that the bet din is cruelly deluding women into believing they have a valid divorce. Instead, they say, rabbis will not officiate at the weddings of these women, and if a marriage does

occur, it may not be recognized.

"The methods they're using are beyond controversial," said Rabbi Avi Shafran, the spokesman of Agudath Yisrael of America. They are "fabricated" to yield a result that is unacceptable to authorities on Jewish law.

Although milder in its criticism, the sentiment is shared by the Beth Din of America, which is affiliated with the centrist Rabbinical Council of America, and the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America.

And recently, some 30 mainstream Orthodox rabbis from the metropolitan New York area said the Rackman-Morgenstern court could jeopardize the religious status of women who remarry and have children.

However, advocates for agunot counter that if the mainstream rabbis do not find these precedents acceptable, they should look for alternative solutions for agunot, rather than punishing them further by attacking this option, which, they say, is legitimate.

"This is an entirely halachic procedure," said Blu Greenberg of the Bronx, the founder of the Jewish

Orthodox Feminist Alliance.

"This is the lifeline being thrown to agunot who want to be freed, but who also want to stay within the four cubits of Halacha," she said. "Until this solution, agunot were

'The annulment of marriages is a great power which only courageous rabbis will undertake'

Menachem Elon, former deputy president of the Supreme Court

still at square zero, and all the expressed sympathy didn't change anything.

"The opposition should thank God every day that there are such

men who have done the necessary halachic spadework to propose a solution."

However, Shenhav, who has been an advocate for agunot in the religious courts, acknowledges the problem of the annulments not being universally accepted. "Unless there's broader support, it won't be an effective solution," she said.

Knowing that a lot of rabbis do not recognize the process leaves a lot of observant agunot wavering. Orthodox agunot, Shenhav said, are "trying to strike a balance between their desire to remain observant and their desire to get married and have children."

"One option is to abandon Orthodoxy. But shouldn't there be a place for them to have equality, justice and fairness, and still continue practicing as observant Jews?"

THREE years ago, there was a moment when it appeared that the Orthodox community was preparing for a sympathetic and cooperative solution to the problem of agunot.

The community was embarrassed

and anxious over a widely publicized case of "kedushei ketana" in which a recalcitrant New York husband betrothed his young daughter as a weapon against his estranged wife in a divorce battle. He refused to identify the prospective groom, in effect making his daughter an aguna while she was an unmarried 11-year-old.

Condemnation was universal, but a solution was elusive because of the fragmentation of the Orthodox community. Each has its own deciders, and there are very few rabbinic leaders whose halachic authority transcends the sectarian differences within Orthodoxy.

That could actually work in the new religious court's favor, however. "There is a bet din on every corner," said Dr. David Schnall, a professor of management and administration at Yeshiva University's Wurzweiler School of Social Work. "I don't think Rabbi Rackman can be criticized for deviating from the standard of practice — because there is no standard of practice."

In general, the Rackman-Morgenstern court uses a liberal definition of fraud that allows the court to annul a marriage because the woman was duped into the union. It also has empowered rabbinical judges — instead of the husband — to grant a divorce.

However, the Bet Din of America's Rabbi Michael Broyde said the most significant problem is that it is not known what sources the Rackman-Morgenstern bet din uses to buttress its rulings.

"The only way to examine whether an innovation is correct is by the innovator getting up and explaining what he's doing," and that has yet to happen.

"There's been no formal presentation of the underlying rationale," said Bleich, adding, "The citations that are bandied about do not support, and have very little to do with, the conclusions."

The seminar is intended, in part, to answer opposition to the new bet din, which tends to take one of two forms.

There are those who say it is "treif lechachila," meaning that the basis for the solution is invalid — and so the solution itself must be invalid.

Then there are those who say this bet din is not the answer, although they recognize that something has to be done, said Dr. Samuel Heilman, a professor of Jewish Studies and sociology at the City University of New York.

"One [group] is viewed by supporters of the bet din as uncaring, the other as hypocritical for admitting the problem but not coming up with a solution," Heilman said.

"Our presence in Israel will be helpful to organizations there trying to do the same thing we're doing," Rackman said, as he and Morgenstern prepared for the seminar.

"There is a feeling that this is a problem whose time has come."

At the Auctions will return later this month

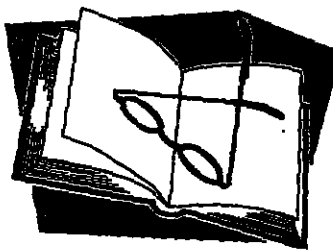


Spending time with a best friend.

(Harrold Guthman)

Freud in fur

Book Review



By Mark K. Feeney

Pack of Two: The Intricate Bond Between People and Dogs, by Caroline Knapp (The Dial Press, 249 pp., \$21.95)

I often have been said that there are cat people, and there are dog people.

It's difficult to say whether a cat fancier would relate to Caroline Knapp's third book, an introspective, beautifully written study of why people love their dogs. Anyone who wonders about the attention being paid to dogs these days — with puppy "play groups," dog vacation camps and gourmet treats — might not relate at all.

But for dog owners, the appeal is clear. Knapp is brutally honest about her attachment to her dog.

the deaths of her parents.

Knapp did not set out to fill the void in her life with a four-footed friend. Her trip to a Massachusetts animal shelter was initially a "browsing" venture. Knapp had no idea of the kind of dog she wanted; she admits she had fantasized about an elegant, short-haired, earth-toned creature, a dog "that would match my furniture."

What she came home with was Lucille, a serene shepherd-mix puppy who sniffler her way into Knapp's heart.

The love of a dog, Knapp finds, helps her to focus on her continuing recovery, straightens out priorities in relationships and gives her life a center that it didn't have before.

Knapp's fixation, however, worries her friends, who think she is investing too much emotionally in the dog. Knapp herself worries about this, especially after she forsakes movies, restaurant dinners and other occasions to stay home so her pooch won't be lonely. She also is concerned about the dog's becoming a surrogate child, and about societal pressure to have children.

But for Knapp, and all the dog

Knapp is brutally honest about her attachment to her dog — but friends are worried about her fixation

Lucille, even admitting that, behind closed doors, she converses with her pet in the most peculiar way. But her honesty, insight and superb writing are what makes this book so special.

"In some ways, living with a dog is like being followed around 24 hours a day by a mute psychoanalyst: You get that blank screen — nonjudgmental, trusted, noncritical — but no interpretation, no words of insight or guidance, no quiet voice of reason helping you to connect the psychic dots. Feelings float up from inside — rational ones, irrational ones, ones you didn't even know you had — and attach themselves to the dog, who will not question their validity, or hold your behavior up to scrutiny, or challenge your perceptions."

Freud in fur: Freud without the therapeutic agenda. In the dog's presence you are free to act — and act out — any way you want."

Knapp's last book, the superb *Drinking: A Love Story*, chronicled her 20-year battle and eventual triumph over alcoholism, as well as her feelings of loss after

owners she describes in the book, caring for a dog is equally rewarding. "There are many ways to be nurtured in this life, many ways to be generative and loving."

"I thought about a slightly catty bumper sticker that I once saw and secretly admired: CHILDREN ARE FOR PEOPLE WHO CAN'T HAVE DOGS. I thought: Perhaps, for me, this is enough."

Pack of Two not only tells the story of Knapp and Lucille, it also presents intriguing statistics about dog ownership, along with stories from other dog owners.

Knapp tells of relationships that have been broken or cemented over the care of a dog, and of a woman whose dogs have served as surrogate family over the years. In one especially sad story, a man dying of AIDS calls, through his delirium, for his dog, Toby — his last words.

This truly is rewarding reading for anyone whose heart has ever been touched by a wagging tail or a pair of gleaming canine eyes.

(The Hartford Courant)

Fish farming: The 'Blue Revolution'

Earthly Concerns



By D'vora Ben Shaul

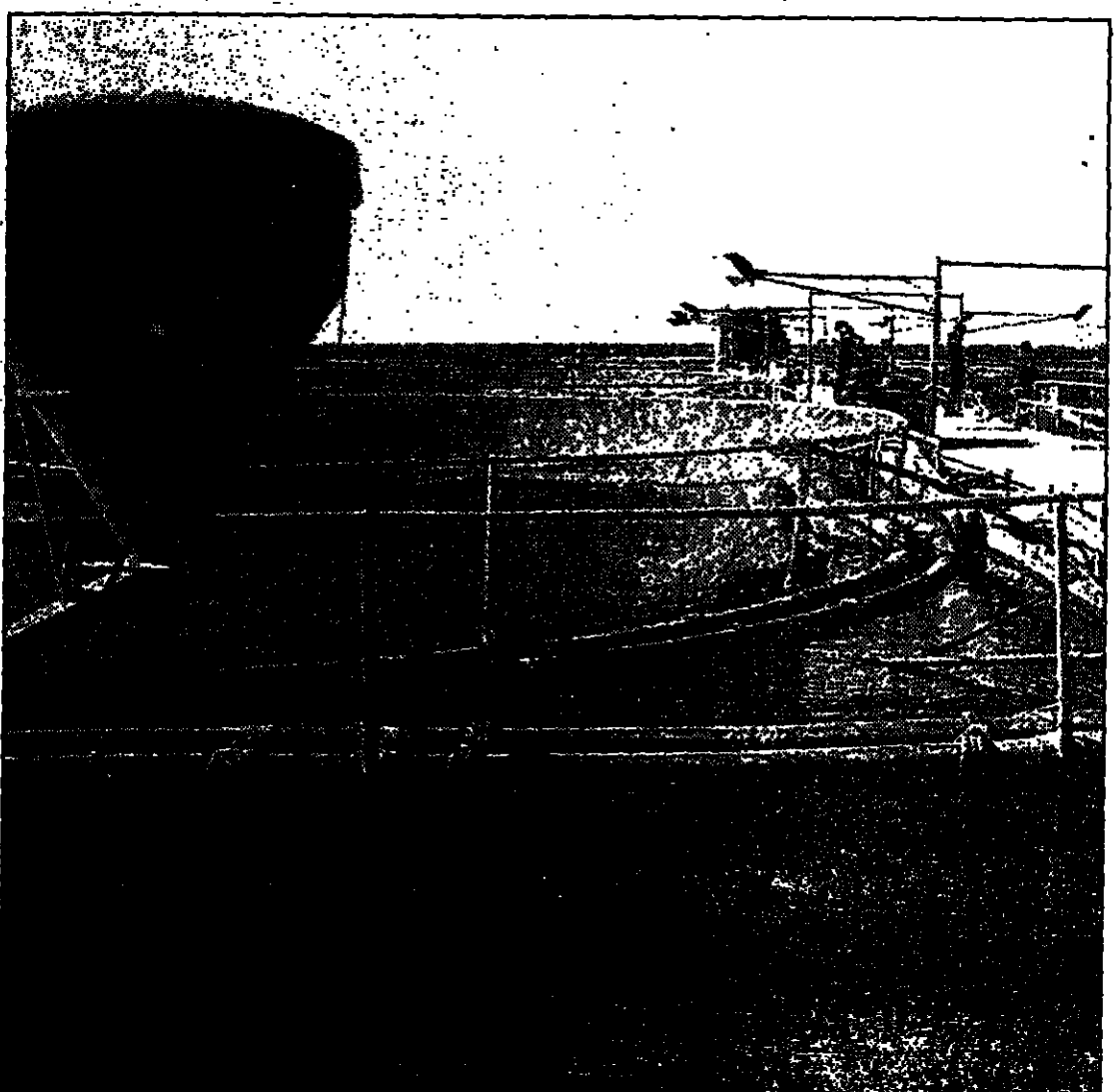
Today's fastest-growing sector in world food production is not agriculture but aquaculture, the controlled raising of fish in ponds or salt-water enclosures on the shore of the sea.

The figure of 12.4 million tons of farmed fish produced in 1990 rose to some 27 million tons in 1997. Today, 2.5 kg. of farmed-raised fish are marketed for every five kg. of beef produced in the world.

Aquaculture appears to have been originally invented in China, and that is where, at the present time, the sector is marking its most dramatic growth. China produces close to 70 percent of the world's farmed-raised fish.

Although a Chinese fish farming instruction manual was written as far back as 460 BCE by one Fan Li, the art was slow to spread into the rest of southeast Asia. Today countries such as Bangladesh, Indonesia, India and Thailand are rapidly developing their aquaculture.

One of the many advantages of fish culture is that it is far more economical than beef, pork or chicken. While it takes 4 kg. of grain to produce 1 kg. of pork and 7 kg. of grain to produce 1 kg. of beef, chicken and fish production require an input of just 2 kg. of feed each. But fish culture further proves its economy, for while only 50 percent of the raw weight of chicken is edible, for fish it's 65%.



Several countries have shown interest in Israel's hi-tech fish ponds, despite the installation costs.

Supported by their watery environment, fish do not need to invest so heavily in skeletal development.

Another advantage of fish is its high protein and low fat and cholesterol.

Moreover, a substance found in fish oil, omega-3 fatty acid, helps

prevent the blood clotting that leads to strokes and heart attacks.

But aquaculture is very uneconomical when it comes to water usage. Although it takes about the same amount of water to produce a ton of fish as it does to produce a ton of feed-lot, grain-fed beef,

the water from fish ponds is a great source of pollution of rivers, streams and lakes and, in the case of sea-water enclosures, of the sea itself — for the nutrient-rich water from these ponds is beneficial only if directed onto agricultural crops.

However, here is where Israel, long familiar with the art of fish farming, may offer some solutions.

FROM the air, along the Israeli-Egyptian border, one sees what appears to be rows of big bubbles. These are greenhouses for intensive fish farming, where heat is absorbed by special plastic containment by day and released to keep the water warm at night.

Under these enclosed conditions tilapia (St. Peter's Fish) grow to their full size in 12 months rather than the 17-18 months required in open ponds.

The water in these "bubble houses" is continually recycled, flowing through biofiltration systems using both mechanical and bacterial cleaning processes powered by photovoltaic panels utilizing solar energy.

Because of the constant filtration and the fact that the plastic containment cuts down evaporation — one of the greatest causes of water loss in open ponds — significantly less water is needed to produce a ton of fish.

A dozen or more countries have already shown interest in the system, even though installation costs are far higher than those of ordinary fish ponds.

A generation ago, agriculture responded to a rising population's food needs by increasing crop yields, the so-called Green Revolution. Now, it seems, the breach is being filled by the fish farmers of the "Blue Revolution."

But the Green Revolution had a lot of drawbacks, like environmental damage from pesticides, water pollution from chemical fertilizers, and all the problems of soil erosion due to land clearing.

Can the Blue Revolution duplicate the successes of the Green while avoiding its dangers? If it can, the effect on our planet will be major.

HOW TO REACH

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DRIVE CAREFULLY

Early warning system for deadly bacteria

By DAVID BRAND

Potentially deadly bacteria in food, water supply or on the battlefield before it can do damage has never been detected reliably or fast enough to prevent death, illness or economic loss.

Just one example: A beef-processing plant in Columbus, Nebraska, was forced to recall 12 million kg. of hamburger last year, when less than a speck of bacteria was detected.

Now Cornell University researchers have merged the fields of nanofabrication and biology to produce a simple but effective means of detecting harmful bacteria. New biosensors are able to detect minute quantities of bacteria, from the slaughterhouse to the restaurant, sending up a red flag when there's a problem.

The biosensors, developed by Harold Craighead (professor of applied and engineering physics) in collaboration with Carl Batt (professor of food science), are simple in concept.

They arose from technology that is the mainstay of the microelectronics industry: The sensors capture bacteria in a regular, repeating pattern and, like the bar code used in a supermarket, can be read using a laser beam.

"It's like a printing press," says Batt. "By stamping antibodies on the surface, the bacteria will be bound to the sensor, then forming a pattern that can be read with a laser. It is a very fast, direct method for detecting bacteria."

Using Cornell's nanofabrication facility, the researchers made small-scale rubber stamps imprinted with diffraction gratings, which are the patterns of the lines of bacteria-seeking antibodies. In this case the Cornell team targeted *E. coli* O157:H7, a deadly pathogen that has been linked to deaths resulting from tainted hamburger.

These patterns were then stamped on the surface of silicon, the same material used

in computer chips, providing a sticky surface for bacteria to cling to. To detect *E. coli* on the sensor, the silicon chip was illuminated with a laser, and the laser light diffracted at a particular angle.

The more bacteria bound to the silicon surface, the greater the diffraction intensity. The researchers say this gives an instant reading of the level of bacterial contamination.

The laser reader could be incorporated into a simple, hand-held device for use anywhere bacteria are a contamination threat.

Similarly, the silicon chips may be placed at strategic points on a food production line or other sensitive area and tied to a central computer to monitor bacterial contamination.

The use of nanotechnology to create a specific pattern on the surface of the silicon, say the researchers, is a demonstration of how methods developed in the microelectronics industry will have a broad impact on biological problems.

"This is just one example of the possible use of nanofabrication technology for biological applications," says Craighead.

Batt points to the enormous challenge of detecting bacteria at every stage in the food processing industry.

"As history has shown us, if a small colony of bacteria gets into the system, the cost, both in health and economic terms, can be enormous," he says.

He notes that hospital-borne infections, battlefield threats, even community-acquired infectious diseases are also amenable to this new biosensor technology.

"Bacterial contamination takes thousands of lives, sickens millions and costs the health care industry billions of dollars a year," says Batt.

"If we had an early warning system, such as these biosensors could provide, we would be aware of the problem and able to attack it much more efficiently."

(Cornell University News Service)



That first detectable bite – but could it damage her health?

(Brian Hendler)



The Responsa Project disk, a product of over two decades of research and development at Bar-Ilan University.

Judaic treasure



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

Bar-Ilan University Global Jewish Database (*Responsa Project*), Version 5.0, a CD-ROM in Hebrew and Aramaic, produced by the BIU Responsa Project, (03) 531-8411, also marketed here and abroad by Torah Educational Software (TES) at www.torahscholar.com, and The Jerusalem Post Books Department (www.jpost.co.il) for teenagers through adults. NIS 2,400; NIS 360 for an upgrade of a previous version.

Rating: ★★★★★

The Stone Chumash, a CD-ROM in Hebrew and English, improved version by ArtScroll and Torah Educational Software, from TES or from The Jerusalem Post Books Department. For ages nine to adult, NIS 249 (\$39, or \$79 for version with English translation of Rashi).

Rating: ★★★★★

Two outstanding pieces of Judaic software – upgraded versions of programs that last appeared over three years ago – are a great improvement over their predecessors.

The Responsa Project disk, a product of over two decades of research and development at Bar-Ilan University, covers 4,000 years of written Jewish scholarship and is considered the "last word" in biblical, talmudic and halachic technology.

Beginning with the Bible, the disk includes numerous Bible commentaries – the Mishna, Tosefta, Babylonian and Jerusalem Talmud, halachic and aggadic midrashim, the Rambam, Shulhan Aruch, Mishna Brura – and an incredible variety of responsa (halachic questions and answers) that go back to the great sages of Babylonia in the eighth century CE and continue through the 20th century, with rabbis Moshe Feinstein, Shlomo Zalman Auerbach, Eliezer Waldenberg and Ovadia Yosef. The oldest of the texts were typed into the data bank by hand to avoid damaging the fragile pages.

Although casual users might be put off by the price, serious scholars and students will find the nearly 700 volumes on the disk invaluable since most are unavailable to the general public; even those that are in print cost tens of thousands of shekels and take up many meters of shelf space.

The 5.0 version (replacing the 4.0 version, which appeared in 1993) is more advanced technologically and includes many additional sources, such as *Tosfot*, *Zohar*, *Avot DeRebbi Natan*, *Yalkut Shimoni* (on the Torah), *Ibn Ezra* (on Tanach), *Biur Halacha* (Mishnah Berura) and new responsa texts like *Amrei Nezer*, *Orah Haim*, *Yoreh Deah*, *Even Ha'ezer*, *Igrot Moshe* (volume 8) and *Piskei Din Yerushalayim* (volume 4).

The best new feature is a Windows-based search and retrieval with hypertext, allowing cross-referencing from one piece of text to the other.

Users can look up a biblical verse, for example, and with the press of a key instantly locate every place in the Talmud where it is discussed. The hypertext capability is available between the

Bible, Mishna, Babylonian Talmud and Minor Tractates; and among Rashi/Tosfot and the Bible, Mishna, Tosefta, Minor Tractates, Babylonian and Jerusalem Talmud, and halachic and aggadic midrashim. Copying and pasting material, saving on a "clipboard" and sending to the printer is much easier than before, and larger fonts can be used (for the nearsighted).

The only minutely annoying feature in the package is the inclusion of a "dongle" plug that must be inserted into one of the printer ports to ensure that only the purchased disk is used. The plugs are the cheapest form of protection against copying, but there are other reliable encoding techniques that can be used instead.

The Stone Chumash was published by ArtScroll only five years ago, but it has already become the standard edition of the Pentateuch in Orthodox synagogues throughout the English-speaking world. It includes not only a clear English translation of the text, but also Rashi (Hebrew) and Onkelos (Aramaic) commentaries, and an English-language anthology of explanations by over 200 recognized Jewish commentators, including thumbnail biographies.

In a bold move, ArtScroll's Rabbi Nosson Scherman asked TES to adapt the Pentateuch into a CD-ROM with a computerized concordance, gematria calculator and many other features.

In response, TES's resident computer expert, Jeff Milgrom, produced an impressive, user-friendly piece of software. Now, instead of searching for hours, the user can locate in seconds every reference to a specific word, root, groups of words or verses in the first five books of the Bible.

Upon opening the program, the user can choose from a Hebrew, English, or Hebrew-English Pentateuch text with full linear translation (giving Hebrew on one side of the screen and English on the other). There is also the choice of eight colors for both the background and the text display and eight alternative fonts – sized from a normal 12 to a gigantic 36 points.

The appropriate *haftara* sections for each Torah reading are included, as are the Five Megillot. The program, suitable for PCs and Macs, also has ready-made lists, such as the 613 Commandments.

The gematria feature gives the numerical equivalents of Hebrew words or verses using any of seven different methods of calculation.

Of special benefit to users, especially those preparing homework or study material, is the note feature. There's a Hebrew- and English-language word processor that allows the user to type in his own notes.

While the original disk was impressive, the improved version offers a lot more. Most prominent is the on-line tutorial, spoken in clear English.

Rashi commentary to the entire Pentateuch can be viewed in regular Hebrew or Rashi fonts, and the \$79 version has an English translation of Rashi, a boon to the English-speaking student.

Search capabilities are enhanced, with searches according to proximity, root words, topics and footnote.

The new version also has the capability of linking spoken notes or even music, recorded via the computer's microphone, into specific verses of text that can be accessed with just a click of the mouse.

Photos entered into the database can also be linked to a specific verse and viewed.



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

It isn't only human beings who get cancer. Uncontrollable division of cells can strike grapevines, apples and pears, and other plants and trees.

Now Tel Aviv University scientists have uncovered a hormonal system that can be used to cure tumors in plants.

Prof. Roni Aloni of the plant sciences department in the life sciences faculty has found a process in flora that parallels the spread of human tumors owing to the supply of oxygen and food via proliferating blood vessels (angiogenesis).

Plant tumors can develop, he learned, by the growth of conduction tubes. As in humans, preventing these vessels from developing causes the growth of the tumor to be stunted.

Cancerous growths in plants cause them to dry up and die. The most common type is caused by a bacteria called *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*, which attacks hundreds of types of plants that have double cotyledons (primary leaves in the plant embryo).

The plant is infected when the bacteria enters a "wound" in the plant and release plasmids (particles of DNA that enter the

plant cells). The plasmids have genes for producing plant hormones that direct the plant's growth.

Infected cells start producing large amounts of these hormones and stop heeding the plant's "control center." The cancerous cells multiply very fast, and the plant tissue grows uncontrollably.

Aloni, who started studying this phenomenon during a sabbatical in Europe, discovered that the plant tumor affects the cell's transport system, getting 15 times as much nutrients as in a normal cell.

Thus competition for water and nutrients develops between the tumor and the normal plant tissue above it; when the tumor wins, the rest of the plant dries out.

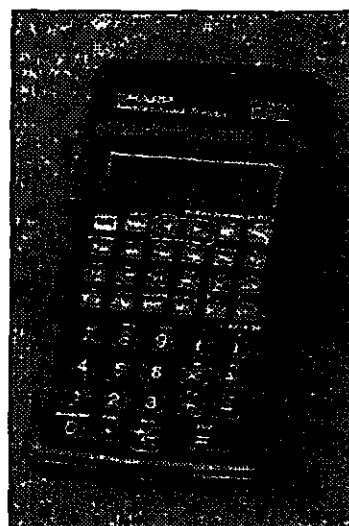
If the production of the plant hormone ethylene, produced by the tumor, is neutralized, Aloni suggested, water will remain in the stem and cause the tumor to die.

He tested his hypothesis on plants, and found it was correct. The development of plant varieties not sensitive to ethylene and the use of ethylene repressors could prevent plant tumors from developing in plants and reduce crop damage, Aloni says.

CALCULATING A GOOD DEAL

Rather than the ordinary cheap calculators that add, subtract, multiply and divide, high-school pupils usually need scientific ones which can do trigonometric and other advanced calculations.

Now Sharp has produced a NIS 40 scientific calculator –



Now – a scientific calculator.

(Amir Weinberg)

somewhat cheaper than less advanced models from other companies – that displays, on a two-line digital screen, the actual sequence (not just one stage at a time) of calculations that make up a problem, until it is solved.

Marketed by Techno-Ralco in the 5091H and 5311H models, the calculator has 43 keys representing 153 different functions.

If the user makes an error he doesn't have to start from the beginning, but can return to the spot before the mistake was made.

This is also reportedly the only scientific calculator that produces percentages by pressing a single key.

It comes in a permanently attached hard-plastic case with instructions printed on the inside of the cover.

Now you can know if food is 're-frosted'

By NEAL SINGER

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico – Eating cooked food – especially meat, poultry and fish – that has been frozen, defrosted and then frozen again can be very harmful: The thawing process can awaken harmful bacteria and allow them to thrive, while the re-freezing does not kill them off.

But how is the average supermarket customer to know if the frozen food he is buying thawed in the truck during transport, or in the store's freezer during a power failure, and was then refrozen?

An inexpensive thaw indicator placed in packages containing frozen food has been developed at Sandia National Laboratories, which are owned by the US Department of Energy (DOE).

The indicator changes color when its temperature rises above the point where harmful bacteria multiply – and doesn't change back if the temperature then drops below freezing, according to Sandia manager David Martinez.

"Many inventions are simple," says University of New Mexico engineering Prof. Mo Shalhinpoor. "It's just that nobody thought of this before."

Shalhinpoor is a co-developer with Martinez of the temperature-detecting conceptual designs.

The invention, a by-product of a solar research project, depends on

an inexpensive "smart" material – a thin wire that "remembers" multiple shapes and acts as a sensor.

Using no power source except warming or cooling, the wire changes shape markedly and powerfully at appropriate temperatures.

When warmed, movement of the wire tears a green-colored paper beneath. When cooled, the wire returns to its prior position but because the paper is torn, the warning color remains visible.

Martinez and Shalhinpoor have developed eight preliminary designs, all patented, in which a smart-material sensor exposes a color-coded paper.

The wire actuators utilize nitinol, a "smart" material comprised of nickel and titanium. Manufactured by the millions, or even thousands, the wire – about the size of a piece of thread less than a centimeter long – would cost "pennies for the raw materials," says Martinez.

"When there's pressure from Washington on food processors, transporters and distributors to protect consumers against spoiled food, we have a technology patented to do just that," says Jim Bickel, associate director of the New Mexico-based WERC (Waste Education and Research Consortium).

(EurekAlert News Service)

SHORTER WAIT FOR 144 Bezeq customers who dial 144 for information are now put in a "virtual queue" that sends their call to the information service office anywhere in the country most likely to be free within seconds.

The recently installed "smart system," based on a unique algorithm, takes into account the number of operators on duty at any moment, the number of calls and the average time for answering a query.

The system has reduced average waiting time on Sundays from 45 to 25 seconds and during the rest of the week from 15 to four seconds, Bezeq said.

DEGREES OF TRAGEDY

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev has awarded posthumous degrees to two young women, one of whom died of cancer and the other in a road accident before they could attend their graduation ceremony.

Rivka Hazan, who succumbed to cancer a few weeks ago, was an outstanding student in the behavioral sciences department; she hadn't managed to complete two papers she still needed to get her degree. The university decided to present the certificate to her parents as a humanitarian gesture.

Another student who died tragically, 27-year-old Liat Azoulay-Alfasi, had finished all the requirements for her BA in human resources management. But the day after her marriage last August she died in a road accident at the entrance to Moshav Segula in the South.

A short time before the acci-

dent, she had registered to study business administration at BGU.

ANCIENT MEXICAN BALLPLAYERS

It probably wasn't used for playing soccer, but archeologists have unearthed the remains of an ancient sports facility in Chiapas, Mexico, dating back 3,400 years.

The site is at least five centuries older than any previously discovered ball courts in pre-Columbian Mesoamerica, says Warren Hill and Michael Blake of Canada's University of British Columbia accidentally discovered the court in the Paso de la Amada archeological dig while exploring the site in 1995 for residential structures, *The Washington Post* reported recently.

They found a trench bisecting two earthen mounds with benches flanking a central alley about 80 meters long, a design "unique to ball courts and similar to those found in later sites," the researchers wrote in a recent issue of *Nature*.

Although very little is known about the game played on this kind of court, the researchers reached the conclusion that a strong element of conflict and competition was involved in playing the game.

Later versions resembled modern-day basketball, with players trying to pass a rubber ball through a wall-mounted hoop.

"A network of ball courts may have provided villagers with a means of inter-village competition, while simultaneously helping to maintain community solidarity," wrote Hill and Blake.

New from Aviva Bar-Am, author of numerous popular travel books

book department

EasyWalks in Israel
Sites and Stories

A unique volume of non-strenuous strolls, easy walks and fairly easy hikes which contains history, legends and anecdotes about sites all over Israel.

Includes city walks, picnic spots, nature trails, nature reserves, national parks, historical sites, ideas for family outings, roadside stops and scenic drives.

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New 'no-sweat' surgery helps heavy perspirers

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

No sweat! For most people, that's just an expression meaning "No problem."

But for the estimated one percent of the population that suffers from hyperhidrosis — excessive perspiration from the palms of the hands, soles of the feet and armpits — "no sweat" is a cherished wish.

Yet serious cases can be treated more easily than ever before, says Prof. Abraham Mares, chief of pediatric surgery at Soroka Hospital.

"I'm always amazed at how many people still suffer, not realizing they can get help," Mares says. "Why should they go on suffering?"

Until four or five years ago the Beersheba hospital offered a surgical solution to the problem. The armpit was opened to enter the thoracic cavity and nerves that stimulate excessive sweating from the palms were cut. But

while this had nearly a 100% success rate, the procedure took 45 minutes per armpit, hospitalization and recovery at home lasted two weeks, and each side had to be operated on months apart.

Today the procedure is carried out by keyhole surgery via the armpits into the chest and is called thoracoscopy (the better-known term "laparoscopy" refers to keyhole surgery only in the abdominal region).

Mares says Soroka was the first hospital in the country to perform thoracoscopy for hyperhidrosis on children and teenagers.

Over the past few years it has done hundreds of the operations — even on children as young as five.

Excessive sweating seems to have a genetic basis in about a quarter to a third of patients.

"There is a mother or brother or other first-degree relative who has the condition," Mares explains, adding that the hereditary connection "is an observa-

tion, but has never been proven.

"However, in the rest of our patients, there is no family history. We don't even know exactly what causes hyperhidrosis. We see somewhat more girls and women than boys and men, but this may be due to the fact that females are more sensitive to the embarrassing symptoms."

WOULD SOMEONE really want to undergo surgery — under general anesthesia — because he or she sweats too much? Mares explains that people with the condition suffer greatly.

"They tell us that they've had the symptoms as long as they can remember. Children complain that after writing in their school notebooks for a short time, the pages become sopping wet."

"There are people who isolate themselves socially because they're afraid to shake hands or dance. Nor can they play musical instruments such as the

piano or organ. Then there are those who deal with electrical devices or electronic components, whose profession is jeopardized by the moisture they produce."

The summer heat makes the sweating worse — but in winter, going out into the cold with wet hands and feet makes sufferers very uncomfortable.

Before surgery is considered, Mares's staffers are careful to rule out neurological diseases, trauma or thyroid problems, which can also cause excessive sweating.

"In general," Mares says, "the condition is easy to diagnose, even though there is no device that measures sweating objectively. These are healthy people — except for their perspiration problem."

"In milder cases, we tell them to bathe often, use antiperspirants and change their socks frequently; but when the symptoms are severe, these solutions are useless."

"There are medications that dry up the sweat, but they also dry up other bodily secretions, including tears, so they are not desirable."

In the keyhole surgery, which is covered by the health funds, a one-centimeter incision is made at the armpit for a tiny video camera on a catheter and an electric wire that cauterizes the trouble-making ganglion (knot of nerves). The area near the ribs is inflated slightly with carbon dioxide gas to ease manipulation of the instruments.

"We can clearly see the nerves on the TV screen," Mares says. "We used to cut them, but now we use electrical cauterization, which halts their functioning. In the past, we cut more nerves, but now we know that the operation is effective even by cutting one on each side."

One side is completed in just 10 minutes; then the surgeon operates on the other side. A special type of glue is used to seal the incisions; it peels away in

less than a week, so even stitches are unnecessary. The patient is kept overnight for observation, and sent home.

At first, thoracoscopies involving several ganglia caused the soles of the feet to perspire more, via "compensatory sweating," in about a third of the patients. But, the pediatric surgeon noted, by cauterizing only one ganglion this has been reduced to just 10% of patients.

The hospital doesn't offer surgery on nerves leading to the soles of the feet, as cutting these could cause serious compensatory sweating from other parts of the body, and people can much more easily cope with wet feet than constantly moist hands, Mares explains.

One of the few side-effects of the procedure is hardly worth mentioning: Patients' hair will no longer stand on end from fright.

It seems a small price to pay for dry hands "just like everybody else."

In aging, lifestyle beats genetics

By CONNIE KOENEN

Although *Successful Aging* sounds like the title of yet another how-to book promoting wonder pills or miracle exercises, it's in a different league.

Heralded as a benchmark in reshaping society's historically negative view of aging, it approaches the subject by exploring aging in terms of health and vitality rather than expected disease and decline.

Offering guidance to intelligent lifestyle choices for everyone from baby boomers to octogenarians, the book addresses such fundamental questions as: What does it mean to age successfully? What can each of us do to be successful at this most important life task? And what changes in society will enable more men and women to age successfully?

Without making excessive promises, *Successful Aging* (Pantheon) debunks a number of myths, including the common belief that genetics are destiny, and physical and mental deterioration are coded into our genes.

In fact, say the authors, the influence of genetics shrinks with the years, while lifestyle choices become increasingly important in shaping the quality of later life.

"There are many books on aging, but two things set ours apart," said University of Michigan psychologist and co-author Robert Kahn.

"The first and most important is that this one is science-based. The second is that we are very explicit about our concept of successful aging, and we are not promising instantaneous or revolutionary change by gulping some pill."

What the authors do say is that it is never too late to make healthy behavioral choices such as exercising, cultivating new friends and becoming engaged in activities, three of the most powerful determinants of health and functioning in seniors.

"The bottom line is we studied people at different ages, and found no evidence for a point at which it was too late to start exercising or treating disabilities aggressively or doing anything else to improve health," Kahn said.

THE BOOK lays out guidelines for changes in personal behavior, societal expectations and public policy. It summarizes the MacArthur Foundation Study of Aging in America, a 10-year project involving an interdisciplinary network of researchers.

"Essentially, we are defining a new gerontology," said Kahn, who is co-author of the book with Dr. John Rowe, president of New York's Mount Sinai Hospital and School of Medicine. Both were members of the 16-scientist network that studied thousands of older people, including sets of twins.

They were looking for success stories, Kahn said. How do many people remain healthy, mentally acute and independent well into their 90s? The researchers, studying biology, neuroscience, epidemiology, physiology and other specialties, focused on the factors that permitted older people to continue to function well.

As a result, the studies dispel a

handful of clichés about aging that have long shaped individual and institutional attitudes.

Myth: To be old is to be sick.

Fact: Only 5.2 percent of older people (over 65) live in nursing homes, down from 6.3% in 1982. Of Americans in the 75-84 age bracket, 73% reported no disability in 1994.

Myth: You can't teach an old dog new tricks.

Fact: The less people are challenged, the less they can perform. Older people can, and do, learn new things and do them well.

In one experiment, older people who had declined in inductive reasoning and spatial orientation made significant and long-lasting improvement after five training sessions.

Myth: The horse is out of the barn. Years of eating fatty foods, not exercising and smoking have done irreversible damage.

Fact: Nature is remarkably forgiving. The risk of heart disease starts falling almost as soon as you quit smoking. The accelerating beneficial effects of quitting hold true regardless of age. The same is true for obesity, blood sugar, blood pressure, cholesterol and decreased physical functioning.

Myth: The secret to successful aging is to choose your parents wisely.

Fact: With rare exceptions, only about 30 percent of physical aging can be blamed on genes and only about half on changes in mental function. This leaves substantial room for healthy lifestyle to protect the mind and body. Also, as we grow older, genetics takes a back seat to environmental factors.

Myth: The elderly don't pull their own weight.

Fact: The unstated assumptions are that everybody who works for pay is pulling his or her weight, and those who do not are a burden. The truth is some people who are paid do little or nothing useful, while unpaid but productive work — in the home or as a volunteer — goes uncounted. Also, millions of seniors, given a chance, are ready, willing and able to increase productivity, both paid and voluntary.

THE RESEARCHERS also found that memory decline can be reversed, that loneliness can kill, and that well-intentioned help can teach old people to be helpless.

The traditional approach to gerontology has been a careful documentation of a series of losses, Kahn said.

"That's a reasonable way to start accumulating data. We do lose lung function, bone density and cardiac capacity with each successive year. And, of course, there is

an ultimate reality — we are all mortal."

But if that was all, we would behave with resignation, and just give up.

"We're saying that instead of the rocking chair and the shawl, it's okay for older people to be active and do all the things within their capability," Kahn said.

"Right now, because we measure only paid employment in determining productivity, we generally have a wrong idea about what older people are doing. We aren't counting such things as child care, home care, volunteer work and all the other things that keep society glued together."

Successful Aging provides guidelines. Chapters deal with avoiding disease and disability in later life, the positive role of exercise and nutrition, and strategies to maintain and enhance both physical performance and mental function.

Although its emphasis on diet and exercise merely reaffirms today's common wisdom, Kahn said, the research has produced new insights.

"The findings that exercise helps maintain mental and cognitive skills as well as physical ability in old age is new, interesting and exciting," he said.

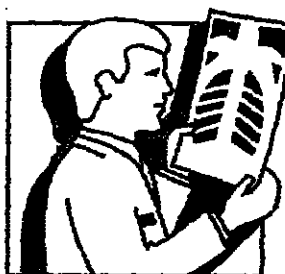
(The Los Angeles Times)



Hebrew University Prof. Itamar Willner won a Kaye Innovation Award for research leading to a breakthrough in the early detection of genetically caused disorders. (Ariel Jerozolimski)

Introducing the gene detective

Health Scan



By Post Health Reporter

Genetic disorders can be detected by DNA-sensitive electronic biosensors developed by a team of Hebrew University researchers.

Considered a genuine breakthrough in the early detection of genetically caused disorders, the invention earned chemistry Prof. Itamar Willner, who headed the team, a Kaye Innovation Award last month.

So far, sensors have been developed to detect two hereditary disorders, Tay-Sachs disease and cystic fibrosis; but many other diseases will be detectable during the early stages of pregnancy using the same principles.

Until now it's been possible to pick up the presence of hereditary diseases from blood samples only through expensive, time-consuming lab tests. The HU sensor, in contrast, works extremely fast and provides an electronic readout.

Tests for Tay-Sachs — a disease that causes blindness, paralysis and death by age five and occurs when both parents carry the defective gene — are important because they enable potential mates to determine their risk of bearing children who will have the disorder.

The HU biosensor examines the DNA sector in which the faulty gene may lie and translates the findings into an electronic signal that provides positive identification. The whole

process takes a little over five minutes.

Willner's lab has previously developed sensors to detect diabetes' blood glucose levels and the presence of sexually transmitted diseases such as chlamydia; the team is continuing to work on biosensors to identify explosive materials and environmental pollutants. Some of them are undergoing advanced development in commercial firms.

LONGER-LIVING DADS

Men: Pay attention! Feeding, supervising, playing with and otherwise raising kids may help prolong the life of primate fathers, according to researchers who studied monkeys, apes and humans.

In species in which mating partners share parental duties equally, males and females seem to live about the same length of time, said John Allman of the California Institute of Technology, co-author of a study appearing in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

But suddenly becoming actively involved in child care when the kids are older won't work. "These are patterns that evolved over a long period of time, Allman told AP. "They are a part of the different social structures in these primate groups."

The research team examined Swedish census data going back to 1780 to see the results of adult men and women sharing parenting chores, and compared them with data on 1,500 animals from nine species of other primates.

The pattern that emerged is that among primates who closely shared the care of offspring, the male-female lifespans were nearly the same. But in species in which males took almost no part in child-rearing, the females outlived the males by a wide margin.

For instance, in chimpanzees —

where the male has almost no role in raising the young — there are about three times more females than males in the adult population. Among mountain gorillas, whose fathers will protect and play with their young, females have only a slight survival advantage.

Among two primates, the owl monkey and titi monkey, fathers carry their young from shortly after birth, except for brief periods of nursing. The average titi monkey male outlives the females, and lifespan is about the same among the genders of the owl monkeys.

Allman said that among some new world monkeys, such as the marmoset, males appear to prize the young highly, and up to four males may share parenting duties.

"There have been reports that some fathers will actually steal others' children," said Allman.

CANCER CLINIC

Star performer Yehuda Poliker attracted an enthusiastic audience recently to raise funds for a clinic to provide psychological support for women who have breast cancer.

The clinic, to be opened at Tel Aviv University by medical psychologist Dr. Rivka Ya'acobi, will use psychotherapy guided imagery, hypnosis, relaxation and other techniques to strengthen women patients and help them fight the disease.

All the staffers are specially trained psychologists with a master's degree, or physicians. Although the initial aim is to help women who have finished their medical treatment and suffer from anxiety over a possible recurrence, the clinic will later help women about to undergo surgery for removing the tumor. Ya'acobi said she expects each course will have around 20 sessions and be offered at "low cost."

How information is 'edited' in the mental 'computer'

By JONI WESTERHOUSE

If you see a gunman fleeing from a bank, how do you remember the bank's name and the gunman's face?

A new study shows that when you're told to remember a word, you activate a region on the left side of your brain. When you're told to remember an unfamiliar face — something to which you can't attach a name — you activate a region on the right.

Interestingly, both regions become active when you're asked to remember an object, such as a gun, that has a name.

So the left side seems to be

active when you're using verbal codes, which you use for either words or nameable objects. The right side seems to be active when you're using nonverbal codes, such as visual features of unfamiliar faces or nameable objects.

says Prof. Steven Petersen, an expert in neurology, neurobiology and radiology at Washington University School of Medicine, who headed the research team that performed the study.

Graduate student William Kelley is first author of a paper in the latest issue of *Neuron* that reports the results.

There are three stages of memory. First, you take information into

the system and make it available for memory as if you were editing a document on your computer screen. Memory researchers call this process encoding.

The second stage is storage, where you make a long-lasting change in the brain, saving the document on your "hard drive."

The third stage is retrieval, as when you get the document back on the screen.

The researchers were addressing a long-standing debate about encoding. Psychologists studying patients with brain damage have concluded that people use the left side of the brain for language tasks and the right side for handling spa-

tial and pictorial information.

But scientists who make images of the brain at work have concluded that the left side is used for memorization and the right for retrieval.

Petersen noticed, however, that most of these images were made while subjects were memorizing words or sentences. He therefore designed a study to test the effects of non-verbal information.

Using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), Kelley and colleagues performed two experiments.

In the first, they took images of five subjects who were asked to memorize written words, line

drawings of objects such as frogs and ladders, and pictures of faces they would be unable to name.

Subsequent testing showed they remembered these words, nameable objects and unfamiliar faces very well, though they did best with nameable objects.

In a second experiment, five different subjects were asked to memorize the test images. At a later time, they were asked to just look at them.

All of the subjects activated a region in the upper part of the left frontal lobe when they were memorizing words. The region activated by the unfamiliar faces was in a corresponding position on the

right side of the brain.

"This is the most clear-cut finding I've ever seen in an imaging study," Petersen says.

"The main conclusion from this study is that regions in the frontal lobe can be affected by the type of material you are trying to memorize," Kelley says. "But an interesting tidbit is that performance was best with nameable objects, which activated both sides of the brain. So in a sense, two sides are better than one. If you use both sides, you're more likely to remember an object later."

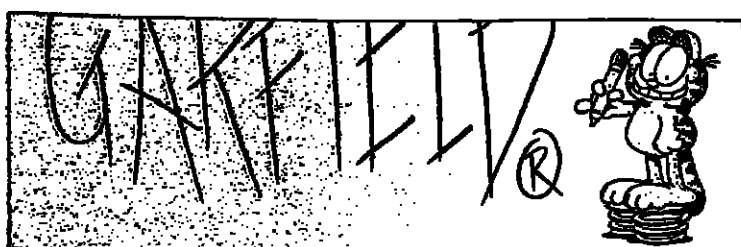
The second experiment showed that the frontal lobes are affected by instructions that people

receive. These brain regions become much more active when people are told to memorize information than when they are told to just look.

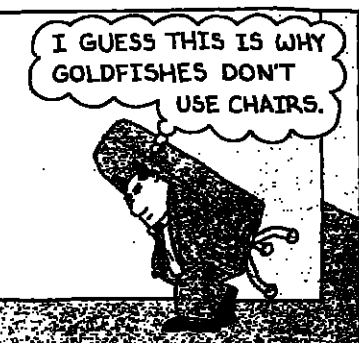
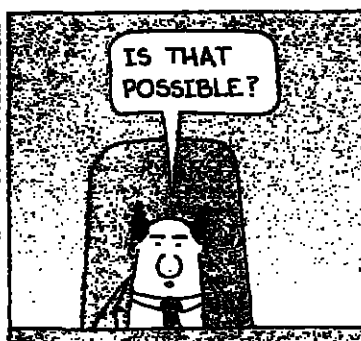
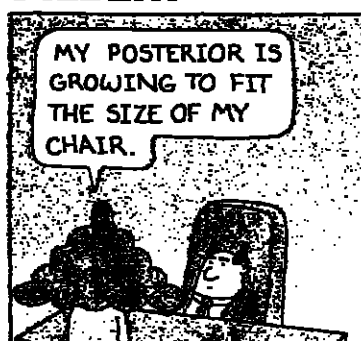
While this study focused on the normal brain, Petersen speculates that the results might be useful to patients with stroke or head injury.

"If you get a lesion in the left frontal lobe, you might be better off developing a non-verbal strategy for remembering things," he says. "If the lesion is on the right, you might want to try a verbal strategy."

(Washington University News Service)



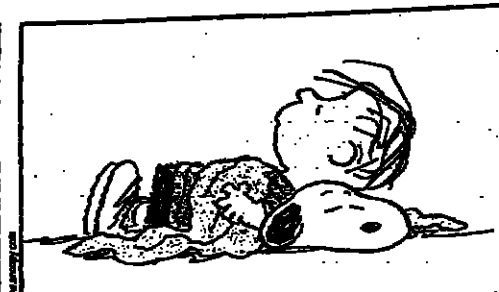
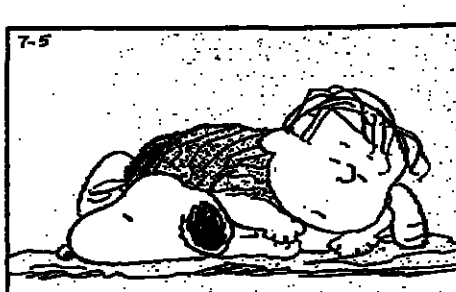
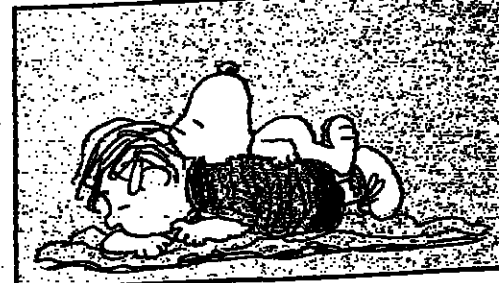
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BY SCOTT ADAMS

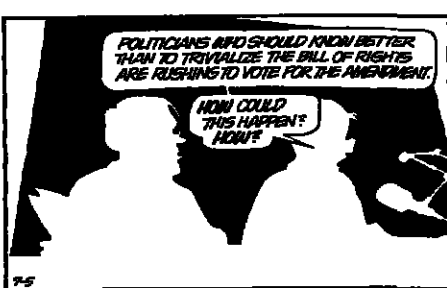
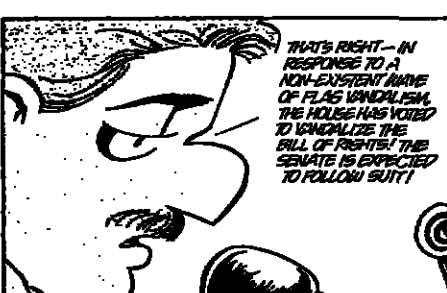
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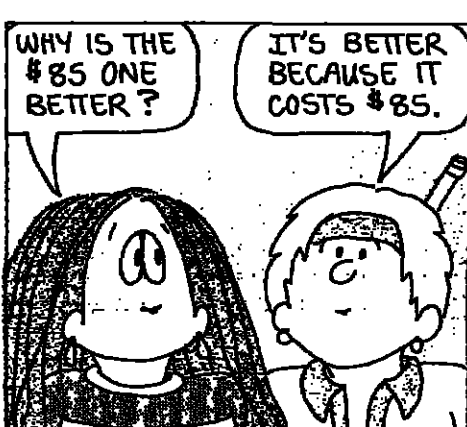


BY CATHY GUISEWITE

Doonesbury
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CATHY



CRITICS' CHOICE



Aki Avni and Sigal Shachmon, the hosts of 'The Fortress' adventure game show tonight on Channel 2

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

Stanley Sperber leads his Haifa Symphony Orchestra in the season finale with cellist Mischa Maisky playing Tchaikovsky's *Variations on a Roco Theme* and the same composer's *Andante Cantabile* together with soprano Inese Galante singing Villa-Lobos's *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5* and popular arias from operas by Mozart (*Don Giovanni* and *Die Zauberflöte*) and Puccini (*La Bohème*, *Gianni Schicchi* and *La Rondine*). Tonight, tomorrow, Wednesday and Thursday at the Haifa Auditorium and Saturday at the Noga Theater in Jaffa. 8:30 p.m. except Saturday at 9.

THEATER

HELEN KAYE

Yuval Zamir got himself noticed by the critics when he directed Lorca's elemental and poetic *Blood Wedding* in London during his student days. He's mounted the production again with the senior class of the Nissim Nativ Studio. This Spanish tragedy tells the tale of a young woman who brings dishonor on

her family when she flees with her childhood sweetheart on the eve of her wedding. Tonight and through Sunday at 8:30 p.m. at the Jerusalem studio.

ANOTHER school, the School of Visual Theater, presents its end of year marathon, which started yesterday. Performances include *Shahid*, a meditation on terror; *Two Kitchen Songs*, which its creator describes as ecological recipes steeped in himself and a puppet/people show called *Sadana Days*. Tonight and through Thursday from 9 p.m. Both Nissim Nativ and Visual Theater are in Talpiot, 4 Yad Harutzim. (Hebrew)

TV

HELEN KAYE

The Fortress is making its local debut. Better known to its millions of fan around the world as *Fort Broyard*, this adventure game show has its participants braving tigers, performing other feats of deriding-do and solving brain teasers to get to the treasure chests. Eleven local teams were chosen to participate and were flown in April to the real fortress off the coast of France to play the game. Hosted by Aki Avni and Sigal Shachmon, the first episode of *The Fortress* airs on Channel 2 tonight at 9 p.m.

TV

CHANNEL 1 (11)

8:30 News flash
8:31 News in Arabic
8:45 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV (11)

8:00 Animation
8:45 Hobbard Dick
10:10 Hot Shots
10:35 Deepwater Haven
11:00 Time Exposures
11:25 Hot Science
12:30 Platteau
12:00 Vacation TV
14:30 Star Trek - Deep Space 9
15:15 SpaceShip Earth

CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 X Men
16:00 Wimbledon Tennis Championships
16:30 NEWS PROGRAMS
18:30 Moment in Life
18:35 Cosby
20:00 News
20:10 LA Heat
20:20 News
21:45 Barbara Walters Special - the famed interviewer chats with three Oscar nominees - Will Smith, Kim Basinger and Burt Reynolds

CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's programs
5:55 On the Edge of the World
6:00 Spiderman
6:30 World with Tel-Ad
6:00 Tarzan
6:50 Apple Dumping
6:55 Harry and the Hendersons
12:00 Comedy Store
13:00 My Secret
13:30 Home and Away
14:00 Tick Tack
14:30 Sesame Street
14:35 The 1000
14:40 Disney Magic
15:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
15:05 Different Driving
17:00 Reshel at Five
17:30 Fresh Prince of Bel-Air

CHANNEL 3 (23)

16:00 The Brave Children
16:30 Short and Sweet
16:30 World of Power
16:30 News in Arabic
16:30 News in Russian
20:00 For Women Only
20:30 Teleshopping
21:00 News
21:30 Blah Blah
22:45 Supernatural
23:15 Ray Bradbury Theater

CHANNEL 4 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Diner
16:00 Everything's Open
16:30 World Youth News
17:00 Little Morocco
17:30 Masami
18:00 Crossroad Cafe
18:30 Dealing With Do
19:00 Religions of the World
19:30 Vis a Vis
20:00 Mind Your Language
20:30 Media File
21:00 Number Seventeen
22:00 Star Trek - Deep Space 9
22:45 Nova: Can You Believe TV Ratings?

CHANNEL 5 (23)

7:00 ETV: How to be a
8:00 Celeste
9:00 One Life to Live
9:30 The Young and the Restless
10:30 Days of Our Lives
11:15 Angels Don't Cry
12:00 Love Boat
12:45 Hart to Hart
13:00 The John Larroca Show
13:30 The Hot-Air Balloon
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
15:00 Let's Get Harry
15:30 Days of Our Lives
15:35 Judge Judy
16:00 Angels Don't Cry
16:45 One Life to Live
17:00 The John Larroca Show
17:30 Local Broadcast
18:00 The Young and the Restless
18:45 Beverly Hills 90210
20:25 Cuesless
20:30 Seinfeld
20:35 Ricki Lake
21:00 The Howard Stern Show
21:30 Local Broadcast
22:00 Love Boat
22:30 Suddenly Susan
22:30 Ricki Lake
23:00 The Howard Stern Show
23:30 Local Broadcast
24:00 Love Boat

CHANNEL 6 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Diner
16:00 Everything's Open
16:30 World Youth News
17:00 Little Morocco
17:30 Masami
18:00 Crossroad Cafe
18:30 Dealing With Do
19:00 Religions of the World
19:30 Vis a Vis
20:00 Mind Your Language
20:30 Media File
21:00 Number Seventeen
22:00 Star Trek - Deep Space 9
22:45 Nova: Can You Believe TV Ratings?

CHANNEL 7 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Diner
16:00 Everything's Open
16:30 World Youth News
17:00 Little Morocco
17:30 Masami
18:00 Crossroad Cafe
18:30 Dealing With Do
19:00 Religions of the World
19:30 Vis a Vis
20:00 Mind Your Language
20:30 Media File
21:00 Number Seventeen
22:00 Star Trek - Deep Space 9
22:45 Nova: Can You Believe TV Ratings?

CHANNEL 8 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Diner
16:00 Everything's Open
16:30 World Youth News
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CHANNEL 18 (23)

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CHANNEL 20 (23)

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CHANNEL 21 (23)

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CHANNEL 22 (23)

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CHANNEL 23 (23)

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CHANNEL 25 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Diner
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15:30 Boogie's Diner
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CHANNEL 27 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Diner
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CHANNEL 28 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Diner
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CHANNEL 29 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Diner
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CHANNEL 30 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Diner
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CHANNEL 31 (23)

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CHANNEL 32 (23)

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TV

CHANNEL 1 (11)

8:30 News flash
8:31 News in Arabic
8:45 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV (11)

8:00 Animation
8:45 Hobbard Dick
10:10 Hot Shots
10:35 Deepwater Haven
11:00 Time Exposures
11:25 Hot Science
12:30 Platteau
12:00 Vacation TV
14:30 Star Trek - Deep Space 9
15:15 SpaceShip Earth

CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 X Men
16:00 Wimbledon Tennis Championships
16:30 NEWS PROGRAMS
18:30 Moment in Life
18:35 Cosby
20:00 News
20:10 LA Heat
20:20 News
21:45 Barbara Walters Special - the famed interviewer chats with three Oscar nominees - Will Smith, Kim Basinger and Burt Reynolds

CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's programs
5:55 On the Edge of the World
6:00 Spiderman
6:30 World with Tel-Ad
6:00 Tarzan
6:50 Apple Dumping
6:55 Harry and the Hendersons
12:00 Comedy Store
13:00 My Secret
13:30 Home and Away
14:00 Tick Tack
14:30 Sesame Street
14:35 The 1000
14:40 Disney Magic
15:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
15:05 Different Driving
17:00 Reshel at Five
17:30 Fresh Prince of Bel-Air

CHANNEL 3 (23)

16:00 The Brave Children
16:30 Short and Sweet
16:30 World of Power
16:30 News in Arabic
16:30 News in Russian
20:00 For Women Only
20:30 Teleshopping
21:00 News
21:30 Blah Blah
22:45 Supernatural
23:15 Ray Bradbury Theater

CHANNEL 4 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Diner
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CHANNEL 5 (23)

7:00 ETV: How to be a
8:00 Celeste
9:00 One Life to Live
9:30 The Young and the Restless
10:30 Days of Our Lives
11:15 Angels Don't Cry
12:00 Love Boat
12:45 Hart to Hart
13:00 The John Larroca Show
13:30 The Hot-Air Balloon
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
15:00 Let's Get Harry
15:30 Days of Our Lives
15:35 Judge Judy
16:00 Angels Don't Cry
16:45 One Life to Live
17:00 The John Larroca Show
17:30 Local Broadcast
18:00 The Young and the Restless
18:45 Beverly Hills 90210
20:25 Cuesless
20:30 Seinfeld
20:35 Ricki Lake
21:00 The Howard Stern Show
21:30 Local Broadcast
22:00 Love Boat
22:30 Suddenly Susan
22:30 Ricki Lake
23:00 The Howard Stern Show
23:30 Local Broadcast
24:00 Love Boat

CHANNEL 6 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Diner
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CHANNEL 7 (23)

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CHANNEL 8 (23)

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CHANNEL 9 (23)

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17:

Inside

Yankees edge Orioles

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Sports Editors

Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Sussex waste chance to challenge leaders

LONDON (Reuters) - Sussex's inability to beat Somerset yesterday cost them second place behind English county championship leaders Surrey.

Instead, Leicestershire emerged as the closest challengers, 18 points behind, after beating Durham by an innings on Friday.

Surrey also won with a day to spare, against reigning champions Glamorgan.

Somerset lost only one wicket in batting through the final day to reach 307 for two. Captain Peter Bowler made 101 and Adrian Pierson an unbeaten 108.

Sussex had to settle for third spot. Kent piled up 580 for nine in their second innings to deny Yorkshire after being forced to follow on.

Opener David Fulton completed the first double-century of his career, before being stumped off Australian Darren Lehmann, who took 4 for 42.

Slow left-arm Richard Stemp went through a marathon stint for Yorkshire, sending down 71 overs and finishing with five for 191.

Gloucestershire achieved an exciting two wickets win over Hampshire.

Their chase for 331 looked doomed at 112 for five but Dominic Hewson (78 not out) and Martyn Ball (54) revived the innings.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	St	Pts
Surrey	9	5	2	2	140
Leicestershire	9	4	4	0	130
Sussex	9	3	4	1	122
Lancashire	8	4	1	3	111
Gloucestershire	8	4	3	1	107
Yorkshire	8	3	2	3	106
Durham	9	3	4	2	103
Worcestershire	8	3	1	4	101
Derbyshire	8	3	2	4	97
Nottinghamshire	9	2	4	1	90
Essex	9	2	3	1	87
Northants	9	2	5	2	83
Hampshire	8	2	2	4	82
Middlesex	9	2	3	4	81
Shropshire	9	2	4	3	76
Staffordshire	9	2	3	4	75
Warwickshire	8	2	5	1	74
Cheshire	9	2	4	3	70
Northants	8	1	1	6	64